FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

5 MARCH 1986

Gulf Affairs; Iran-Iraq War

A French oil tanker was attacked by an unidentified plane some 70 miles northeast of Qatar on its way to lift crude oil at the Saudi port of Ra's Tannurah, WAKH disclosed. The ship headed for the UAE for repairs. No casualties were reported. In another Gulf development, an Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman cited by IRNA responded to the GCC's recent criticisms of Iran by warning the Arab Gulf states that they "should not play with the fire kindled by Saddam." A commentary by the radio deplored the GCC's "inept stands" which will be recorded as "a black mark on the performance sheet of the GCC."

As for the military situation in the Iran-Iraq war, Tehran radio reported that Iranian naval forces fired at four "advanced" Iraqi naval vessels in the Khawr 'Abdallah waterway, sinking one and damaging the other three. An Iranian commander cited by IRNA stated that Iranian forces are holding out firmly in their positions in the Al-Faw area, and the agency said Iran has captured 2,000 Iraqis and killed or wounded some 20,000 in the course of the Al-Faw offensive. IRNA also reported that Iranian forces killed over 100 Iraqi soldiers and Iranian "counterrevolutionaries" in an attack on heights overlooking Halabjah, an Iraqi town located between Darband-i Khan reservoir and the Iranian border.

Israel

Noting that all the candidates who regarded themselves as prospective mayors in Ramallah and Al-Birah have withdrawn their candidacies in the wake of Zafir al-Masri's assassination, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin told Jerusalem radio that IDF officers can continue to run affairs in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza until a political solution acceptable to the Israeli Government is found. IDF officers have done "an excellent job" in local government, he maintained, and Israel can go on holding these areas "without any particular problems." In contrast, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres disclosed that he is contemplating "new initiatives" for the peace process, stressing that Israel does not want to run the Arabs' affairs, according to IDF radio. Meanwhile, *HA'ARETZ reported that Peres' office is formulating a "self-*rule" plan for the Gaza Strip whereby the number of Israelis employed in the local administration will be reduced to a minimum.

Libya

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi reaffirmed his threat to Israeli air traffic during a 2 March speech to the General Peoples Congress broadcast by Tripoli radio. He said Libya will intercept Israeli aircraft in any part of the Mediterranean that is within range of its warplanes, which will shoot down any Israeli plane that refuses to land after being intercepted. As for the Gulf of Sidra, Al-Qadhdhafi warned that any U.S. aircraft flying at the 32.5 degree latitude line will be downed by Libyan missiles, and he pointed out that Libya's SAM-5's can reach beyond this line outside the Gulf. He added that Libya will use surface-to-surface missiles to attack any U.S. warship entering the Gulf of Sidra. Libya will defend the Gulf "whatever the price," he said, asserting that "when I say we will fight, I do not care whether we will triumph or not."

Lebanon

A car-bomb exploded in Sidon 5 March, killing three men and wounding several other people, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio reported.

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'Arafat Reportedly Makes 'Lightning' Moscow Visit

JN041723 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1700 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] In Amman, AFP quoted an Eastern European source as saying Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat paid a lightning visit to Moscow 24 February and held talks for 2 hours with CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev. The source added that Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] was accompanied by Polish Council of Ministers Chairman Zbigniew Messner. The source did not disclose the subject of the Soviet-Palestinian talks.

Palestinian Leadership Meets in Tunis 4 Mar

JN041858 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1715 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee, the Fatah Central Committee, and the PNC leadership will hold a series of meetings in Tunis today under brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] to reply to King Husayn's speech in which he announced his decision to halt political coordination with the PLO. They will also discuss the latest developments in the Palestine question and the Arab situation. Abu 'Ammar presided over a meeting of the Fatah Central Committee in Tunis yesterday to assess the contacts recently held in Moscow by Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department.

Abu Jihad Condemns Husayn Speech

JN041827 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1715 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has said the Palestinian leadership, meeting in Tunis today, will analyze King Husayn's speech in which he announced an end to political coordination with the PLO.

Brother Abu Jihad condemned all attempts to harm the PLO's right to represent the Palestinian people — a right recognized by the Rabat summit resolutions, which have become an Arab and international reality. He said the failure of the peace talks cannot be attributed to PLO refusal to recognize UN Security Council Resolution 242, as stated by King Husayn. He added that Resolution 242 does not recognize the Palestinian people's rights, but deals with the Palestinian issue as a refugee issue.

He also affirmed that the United States continues to refuse to recognize the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and said: We should exert efforts enabling the Arab nations and friendly countries to pressure the United States to yield to international will. He expressed the belief that we should not expect a positive role from the United States, which has concluded a strategic alliance with Israel.

Sees Possible Israeli Gain

JN041255 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1200 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] In Tunis, the Palestinian leadership continues the meetings it began yesterday under Yasir 'Arafat to draft its official reply to King Husayn's recent speech and statements.

Today, AFP released a statement by Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, in which he affirms that the PLO leadership will analyze the king's speech objectively to avoid any arguments on the causes of the differences. Abu Jihad explained that the PLO leadership is determined to avoid any deepening of Jordanian-Palestinian differences since this will be harmful to Arab unity and also in order to face the dangers of the Judaization of the occupied Arab territories. He said that any estrangement between Jordan and the PLO will prompt Israel to carry out its plan to establish an alternative homeland for the Palestinians in Jordan — a plan which the PLO has fought right from the beginning, he said.

Haifa Prison Director Wounded in Attack on Car

JN041913 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1715 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] A military spokesman for the Palestinian revolution forces general command has stated the following:

One of our combat groups operating inside the occupied homeland today attacked with incendiary bombs a Zionist military vehicle carrying the Zionist Dimona Prison director in Haifa, occupied in 1948. The vehicle was completely burned and the Zionist prison director and enemy personnel in the vehicle sustained various wounds. A large force from the army, police, and so-called Zionist border guard rushed to the scene of the operation, besieged it, began a large-scale search campaign, and arrested a number of Palestinian citizens on the pretext of being connected to the operation. Despite these Zionist measures, our combat group managed to return safely to base. Revolution until victory.

[Signed] The Palestinian revolution forces general command

AL-AHRAM Continues 'Arafat 'Dialogue'

PM270955 Cairo AL-AHRAM International Edition
n Arabic 20 Feb 86 p 13

["Dialogue" with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, attended on the Palestinian side by Mahmud 'Abbas, Hani al-Hasan, Dr Nabil Sha'th, Muhammad Subayh, Tayyib 'Abd al-Rahim, Hakam Bal'awi, 'Imad Shaqqur, Zuhdi al-Qudrah, and Khalid Salam; and on the Egyptian side by political party representatives Dr Muhammad 'Abdallh, of the NDP, Dr Wahid Ra'fat, of the Al-Wafd Party, Dr Hilmi Murad, of the Socialist Labor Party, and Dr Muhammad Akhmad Khaalafallah and Dr Samir Fayyad, of the NPUG Party, and by *AL AHRAM* writers Salamah Ahmad Salmah, al-Sayyid Yasin, Ihsan Bakr, and Husayn Sha'lan, and Lufti al-Khuli as moderator of the dialogue — in *AL-AHRAM*'s office in Cairo on 18 February]

[Excerpts] Yasir 'Arafat: We have achieved yet another important goal: the wonderful Palestinian national unity between our people inside and outside the occupied territories. If anybody were to point to me the problem of differences between Palestinian organizations, I would draw his attention to what I have said about unity between our people inside and outside the occupied territories. Richard Murphy tried four times to create a rift between our people inside and outside the territories; British Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe tried once, and Roland Dumas tried once. The three of them tried to persuade leaders in the occupied territories from a Palestinian delegation without the PLO. The answer in all cases without exception was: Our political leadership is the PLO. We are meeting with you only to submit to you our views on problems we are confronting and the suppression and coercion we suffer. When the Israelis failed to get what they wanted, they resorted to terrorism; they attempted to assassinate the Palestinian leadership in Tunis. I would not say the raid was a total failure, but it failed in achieving the principal objective, which was to murder the Palestinian leadership.

When I disappeared for 2 and 1/2 hours [after the raid] U.S. participation in the operation was established. [sentence as published] The Americans began defending themselves and McFarlane who made the decision [on the raid] resigned. But where was McFarlane before he resigned? Was he not the U.S. National Security Adviser? When we said that the Israelis used photographs taken by U.S. satellites, they said that this was true but that the pictures were leaked through Pollard, the Israeli spy. In the beginning the Americans tried to deny their role but we silenced them with the report made by the commander of the Italian fleet in southern Italy.

When their attempts failed, they tried to pressure us in respect to the question of the international conference, stressing the need to recognize Resolutions 242 and 338. When they failed to get this recognition from us through war, the creation of dissent, and assassination, they sought to get it with the help of Arab political pressures.

Of course, we are committed to the Jordanian-Palestinian accord. King Husayn for his part declared he is committed to this accord. We are prepared to act within this accord and nobody can ask us to do more than we have done. I would like to say in this regard that our theory is not based on one-upmanship. We say yes to an international conference and are ready to attend it if we are invited but only if the conference can be effective. This is because the Americans want the conference to be merely a conference of good offices, mediation, and conciliation.

As for the Israelis, they say it would merely meet for a day under the auspices and in the presence of the Security Council members after which it will disband. The conference would meet again at the end of the direct negotiations, expected to last 2 years. But we want an effective conference to be attended by all permanent members of the Security Council and not just the United States. We appreciate the Soviet Union's role and have confidence in it. At the same time we cannot trust those who tried to kill us in Tunis, to massacre us in Beirut, and continue to occupy our land in Palestine. The adversary cannot be a judge. Therefore, the permanent members of the Security Council must participate effectively in the conference.

But then again they go back to alleging that we have rejected Resolution 242 because of Soviet pressure, forgetting our longstanding attitude — that we cannot deal with Resolution 242 because it treats our people's problem as a refugee problem and not as a problem of a people who have a right to exist as a nation. For this reason we insist on an effective international conference in the Security Council to which the PLO be invited on equal footing within a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to discuss the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, including their right to self-determination on the basis of all the resolutions issued by the Security Council and the General Assembly, including Resolutions 242 and 338 because international legitimacy is indivisible; international legitimacy is but one integrated whole.

Unfortunately, the Americans have turned down three draft proposals. Dr Hasan al-Zayyat took part in drafting one of them when he was visiting Jordan. There is an affinity between us and him. He is a former Egyptian foreign minister and was at the United Nations for a long time. We consulted him on the matter. Before we discussed this draft it was taken to the king by Dr Al-Sharaydah, a Jordanian friend. The king in his turn added a few things and made some alterations, but the Americans deny that I have submitted any drafts.

Lutfi al-Khuli: Is it possible to disclose these drafts?

Yasir 'Arafat: No, we will not blow them out of proportion. But we will submit to the Egyptian parties papers on this subject that will include official documents relating to them.

Unfortunately, the present Arab situation enables the United States to single us out. We find no practical support except from Egypt and Iraq.

Thus we had long discussions with King Husayn and formulated the drafts to which I have just referred, but the Americans rejected them completely without offering an alternative. Instead they tried to put the blame on us — either we recognize Resolution 242 or there will be no invitation to the PLO [to the international conference].

I have learned from the Soviet ambassador in Cairo that the Americans have not yet discussed with them any form of international conference, contrary to what we have been told about U.S.-Soviet talks on the international conference being under way.

Dr Wahid Ra'fat: It is a great honor for me to speak right after brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] who explained to us in detail the new developments of the past few months. I speak as a representative of an opposition party and therefore I hope that Abu 'Ammar will not say that we are exerting pressure of any kind because we are in no position to exert pressure. At any rate our hearts are all with you and with the great struggle you have waged so far. Our only hope is that you do not lose this round because of a question of wording, having come all this long hard way and having accepted the peace process because it is the only means to the end and to the fulfillment of your great aspirations. In my own humble view drafts should not be an obstacle in the way of reaching the target which is now within an arm's reach. I do not want to say that it is already in hand.

Resolution 242, which is more important than Resolution 338 which concerns Egypt and deals with the cease-fire after October 1973, was unanimously approved by the Security Council. I agree with brother Abu 'Ammar and the members of the Palestinian delegation that it mentions the Palestinians very casually and regards them as refugees. However, if you examine the essence of the resolution you will find that it is based on exchanging peace for territory and you will find that, for the first time, it commits Israel to withdrawal from territories. What territories? The resolution does not say all the territories. It simply says territories occupied in the 1967 war but this of course is the old British game of playing with words to make it possible to interpret the draft in more than one way. Nontheless, Resolution 242 was the first resolution passed unanimously by the Security Council and that included both the Soviet Union and the United States. It makes demands on Israel and insists that peace and security in the region can only be achieved if the following two prerequisites are met:

1. Withdrawal from territories occupied in the 1967 war;

2. The Arab states should abandon their claims of war or state of war and follow the course of peace.

Resolution 242 speaks of the Palestinians only as refugees. However, developments and changes have now transformed the situation into the following:

As soon as Israel withdraws from any Arab territory, that territory will definitely go to the PLO which is now a semi-government and is recognized by the Arab League and is accepted as an observer member of the United Nations. I maintain that this change makes acceptance of Resolution 242 beneficial in light of these developments.

We heard recently that there is apprehension regarding the United States and I agree with brother Yasir 'Arafat that one could doubt the real intentions of the United States and Israel. Today they want recognition of Resolution 242 and tomorrow they might have another demand. God knows what such a demand might be. But there is an Egyptian Arab proverb which says "stay with the liar until you reach the door" which means that this way we could corner him and we also could prove that we are serious and will go for peace all the way, particularly bearing in mind this interpretation.

I therefore believe that there is something to be gained by not losing the case and not letting all these efforts go to waste because of a draft, especially if it is true that the United States has, according to press reports, stated something to the effect that: As a result of pressure by you or others, the matter is no longer simply a question of refugees.It is much more than that.

If we could force Israel to implement Resolution 242 or if we accept that resolution, that would generate great momentum after which the United States would be able to compel it to implement the resolution within the possible limits.

The territory will not go to King Husayn because the circumstances have changed since 1972 and the days of the United Arab Kingdom plan. There is no longer any dispute that the territory will go to the [Palestinian] people.

That is why, contrary to the general opinion, I hope that brother Abu 'Ammar will be convinced that acceptance of Resolution 242 would be of great benefit if interpreted this way, lest the cause is lost over a matter of wording.

WAKH: GCC Official Holds Press Conference in Riyadh

GF041616 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1400 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Riyadh, 4 Mar (WAKH) — Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, has stressed the need for Arab countries to take joint measures to achieve the withdrawal of the Iranian forces from Iraqi territory. He stated that the GCC states are part of the Arab nation and that the call for Iran to withdraw its forces from Iraqi territory is based on higher Arab interests and on legal bases and principles.

During a press conference in Riyadh today, attended by GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Ya'qub Bisharah, Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah noted that the GCC members have so far not obtained a unified Arab or an international stance toward the Iraq-Iran war.

He affirmed that what has been stated in the text of the final statement of the GCC Ministerial Council on crystallizing an Arab and international stance toward the war is considered a new attempt to find this positive stance or joint international and Arab trend in light of new developments in the war arena.

Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah explained the need for the Arab foreign ministers to be acquainted with the latest developments of the war. He also indicated that the world should be briefed on the dangerous possibilities which might occur in the region due to the expansion of the scope of the war.

About Iranian threats to some countries of the region, Yusuf al-'Alawi said: "The threats which have been made against GCC countries have been analyzed. Thus, we believe that it is our right to say that we now doubt Iran's trend in its relations with the Gulf countries, unless Iran amends the nature of its statements."

He pointed out that contacts are being made with all countries of the world as part of the plan presented by the GCC based on clarifying the new stance the GCC countries have felt from the Iranian side. The plan also calls upon the countries of the world, foremost being the six permanent members of the UN Security Council — in addition to the efforts of the Arab countries — to prevent any other development or expansion of the war outside of its known scope.

He stated that the expansion of "a wide war" would result in an international conflict. He said: We are totally confident and convinced that none of the international sides desire the outbreak of such a conflict in our region. 'Abdallah Ya'qub Bisharah ex-pressed the hope that regardless of their ideologies, as a gratitude and on the basis of their national duties, the Arab countries would back their brothers in the Arabian Gulf states who have always remained a great support for all of the Arab countries in their various issues in the Arab arena over the past 30 years.

He stated that by returning good deeds according to the national duty, the GCC countries desire a way of living peacefully with Iran and expressed this stance through direct and indirect means. He hoped that Iran would ammend its recent threats against the Gulf countries.

Concerning the convocation of a Gulf summit to discuss the situation in the region, Mr Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah said: We discussed the issue from its various sides and we found that the steps which we have taken so far are sufficient and that there is no need for the convocation of a summit by their majesties and highnesses the leaders of the GCC countries.

He said: We believe that when the appropriate time comes to find a peaceful solution to the Iraq-Iran conflict, the GCC countries, as before, will not refrain from supporting and contributing as much as they can to finding the appropriate circumstances and basis for this solution. He said: The war should be looked at within its total framework. Every issue is subject to discussion when all sides, particularly the Iranian side, show a desire to discuss the means to end the conflict and to begin the peace process in the region.

Concerning the extent of the GCC countries' readiness to provide compensation for the damage caused to Iran, the Omani minister of state for foreign affairs said: It should be understood that not every problem in the world can be solved by the Gulf countries. The Gulf countries cannot accept this concept. He pointed out that the Gulf countries, as responsible countries, call for peace and (?contribute) as much as they can to any effort to achieve this goal.

For his part, GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Ya'qub Bisharah affirmed that the contents of the press statement issued by the Ministerial Council last night do not at all contribute to the escalation of the situation in the region. He noted that this statement deals with the current serious situation in the region.

Concerning the possibility of the GCC exerting diplomatic efforts to end the Iraq-Iran war, Mr Bisharah said that the diplomatic work in the GCC relies on patience and persistence and that the GCC countries have all of those characteristics.

Muscat: GCC Chiefs of Staff To Meet 5 Mar

GF041304 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] The chiefs of staff of the GCC countries' armies will hold a meeting at the GCC Secretariat headquarters in Riyadh on Wednesday.

High-ranking military sources told KUNA today that the meeting of the chiefs of staff follows the GCC foreign ministers' conference which recommended such a meeting. These sources affirmed that the chiefs of staff would discuss a joint outlook on the unified media policy for the military to confront the repeated threats to the Gulf countries. They will also review the preparedness of the Peninsula Shield Force, its potentials, the methods of its movement, and the expected dangers facing it.

The sources pointed out that the meeting of the chiefs of staff would last 2 days, during which the chiefs of staff will confirm previous military plans and excercises and will elaborate on the dimensions of the military developments on the battlefronts of the Gulf war.

A communique issued by the GCC Ministerial Council last night affirmed that the joint Gulf force is ready to move to any position which would be affected by the recent developments.

KUWAIT

AL-ANBA' Calls for Financial, Arms Support for Iraq

GF041602 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 3 Mar 86
pp 1, 26

[Atricle by 'Abdallah Ahmad Husayn: "With God's Blessing, O Children of Kuwait"]

[Excerpts] No sound should be louder than the sound of the battle. While we are in this Arab Iraqi trench and in this most vicious war, we can only write about what is related and connected to it and express our support to the Iraqi forces, which are fighting with honor for Iraq, Arab nationalism, and the whole of humanity.

While we hear the sounds of the Iraqi cannons rumbling along the coasts of Shatt al-'Arab and crushing the Iranians and breaking their ambitions and aspirations, we should know that as much as the battle is in need of arms and media support, it is also in need of money.

We tell our wise national government that although it has given much, much more is expected from it. Although we know about the financial crisis it is going through, giving much more to Iraq would not harm it because supporting Iraq is a national Kuwaiti duty.

We know that there is a popular committee for contribution to Arabs and Arab causes. These days It should carry out its duty and call on wealthy Kuwaitis, who have never spared anything in a national duty, and ask them to support the war financially, as we know that they have been supporting it with their hearts, consciences, and feelings.

We know that Kuwait has supported Iraq and carried out its national duty during various circumstances. However, it is now called upon, despite Iranian threats, harassment, and crudeness, to set all its material, moral, and media capabilities at Iraq's disposal because the battle cannot bear any more waiting and because Iraqi cannons and arms have a price, but the Iraqi heroes are priceless.

The Iranian knife has reached our throat. The Iranian planes have provoked our warships and violated our regional waters. They are saving something worse than that for us. There is no other way except to share with Iraq all of our money, efforts, and arms to deter the barbaric Iranian offensive, before we lose the homeland, identity, and civilization.

We have waited too long. We have waited for 6 years, during which the iron and the steel melted while the Iraqis did not. They made the Iranians and the Arab traitors melt and we must follow their steps. The only way for that is to open centers for volunteers and contributions. Without them shame will follow us forever.

As we hear the sounds of the cannons on Shatt al-'Arab, we must feed the Arab cannons and contribute to silencing the Iranian cannons. This can only happen if we stop being idle and stop waiting for what stances others will take.

Kuwait, this small country in area and limited population, is used to being ahead of countries that are larger and have a greater population. Let us move and start working. We have been too late and have wasted too much time. With God's blessings, let the men and women come forward to carry out the duty for which we have waited too long.

OMAN

Foreign Minister Returns From Riyadh, Comments

GF041429 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT
4 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, returned home from Riyadh this afternoon after chairing the 18th session of the GCC Ministerial Council which ended yesterday.

In a statement to the radio correspondent upon arrival, he said that the GCC Ministerial Council's meetings were successful and that appropriate decisions were made on the issues discussed. He stated that the council issued the final communique which represents the axis of the GCC joint agreement on the issues which were discussed.

His excellency noted that the council decided to hold a meeting of the GCC chiefs of staff in Riyadh tomorrow to continue discussion of the joint measures to protect the security of the GCC member states.

Concerning new steps of mediation between Iraq and Iran, he stated that the council is presently discussing all of the means available to save the region from the possibility of expanding the war. He stressed that the member states, in light of the directives of the GCC leaders, are still discussing the best means to unify their efforts to remedy the problems. He added: If circumstances are favorable, and we hope they will be so in the future, the GCC countries, as peace-loving countries, will spare no effort to achieve this vital and important goal.

On Oman's attitude toward the resumption of attacks on tankers in the Gulf, he said: We believe that any effort to deter the causes of tension may contribute to the joint action to achieve stability and security in the region.

QATAR

WAKH: French Tanker Hit Near Qatar 4 Mar

GF042005 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1945 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Doha, 4 Mar (WAKH) — An official source announced here tonight that a huge French oil tanker was hit by a rocket today 70 miles northeast of Qatar.

In a statement carried by QNA, the source said that the tanker *(Choffon)* operated by the British Petroleum Company, was hit by a rocket from an unidentified aircraft which caused a puncture in the engines room in the right side of the tanker.

The French tanker was on its way to the Ra's Tannurah port in Saudi Arabia to carry a crude oil shipment to France.

The captain of the tanker, a Frenchman, said that no casualties have occurred among the crew and that the tanker has changed its route to Dubai for repairs.

SAUDI ARABIA

Qatari Heir Apparent Conveys Message, Departs

GF041911 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received at the royal camp this afternoon Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari heir apparant and minister of defense, who conveyed to him a written message from his brother Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, amir of the fraternal state of Qatar.

Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani left the Kingdom for his country this evening after a short visit.

UAE

EEC's Cheysson Visits, Discusses Regional Issues

GF041655 Manama WAKH in English 1615 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, March 4 (WAKH) — UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid 'Abdallah today met Commissioner of the European Community and Former French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson, who is currently on a visit to the UAE.

The meeting reviewed developments of the situation in the region as well as the Iraq-Iran war.

Both officials expressed their concern over the continuation of the war and asserted the need to exert the utmost and mobilise all regional and international potentials to end the conflict between the two countries.

The meeting also dealt with the latest developments of the Middle East crisis and issues of mutual interest as well as cooperation between the EEC and the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council.

Cheysson expressed desire to resume AGCC-ECC negotiations in the near future to discuss the Gulf petrochemical exports to the EEC.

European Economic Community Commissioner Claude Cheysson has stressed the EEC's readiness to double its cooperation with AGCC member states.

"The AGCC states consitute a big economic power," he said.

In a press conference here today, Cheysson defended EEC on tarrifs on AGCC petrochemical products saying that the EEC states impose duties on some Gulf products but the United States did not exempt any Gulf products from custom tarrifs.

Cheysson reiterated the French and EEC calls for Iran to accept a peaceful settlement to the Iraq-Iran war.

He ruled out any European initiative to solve the Mideast question particularly after Jordanian-Palestinian negotiations reached a deadlock.

Europe, he said, sees the Jordanian-Palestinian coordination as a good base for peace in the region adding any recongnition new initiative must include the Palestinian legal rights and participation of the PLO and all concerned parties and the United States and Soviet Union. [sentence as received]

Cheysson called for serious cooperation between OPEC and non-OPEC countries to restore stability to the world oil market.

Leaves for Bahrain

GF050728 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0600 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 5 Mar (WAKH) — Claude Cheysson, commissioner of the EEC, left Abu Dhabi today for Bahrain following a 2-day visit to the UAE. During the visit, Cheysson met with a number of UAE officials and discussed with them a number of issues of mutual interest, particularly in the sphere of cooperation between the EEC and the GCC.

He delivered a lecture at the 14th Foreign Ministers' Diplomatic Seminar on the importance of the Arab world to Europe.

Omani Minister Brings Sultan's Message for Mubarak

Al-Harithi Arrives

NC041010 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0935 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 4 Mar (MENA) — Omani Minister of Transport Hammud Ibn 'Abdallah al-Harithi [name and title as received] arrived in Cairo this morning on a brief visit. The Omani minister will deliver a message to President Husni Mubarak from Sultan Qabus Ibn Sa'id.

Delivers Message

NC041506 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1010 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 4 Mar (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak received a message from Sultan Qabus Ibn Sa'id of Oman this morning. The message was delivered by Hammud Ibn 'Abdallah al-Harithi, the Omani minister of communications, who is currently visiting Egypt. The Omani ambassador in Cairo was also present.

Minister on Meeting, Riots

NC041540 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1155 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 4 Mar (MENA) — Following his meeting with President Mubarak today, the Omani communications minister, Hammud Ibn 'Abdallah al-Harithi, stated that discussions dealt with developments in the Arab arena and the good relations between Egypt and the Sultanate of Oman. The minister added that President Mubarak had given him a verbal message to convey to Sultan Qabus Ibn Sa'id, in response to the sultan's message.

The Omani minister touched on the recent riots, saying that President Mubarak had given him a full picture of the situation. He added that the Egyptian people had proved their consciousness and awareness both of their country's interests and of national and Arab interests. He also said that the danger is over; all activity that might cause trouble has ceased.

The Omani minister noted that he had come to Egypt in order to see the facts for himself, rather than relying on reports from other sources. He is expected to return to his country today after his brief visit to Egypt.

Al-Harithi Departs

NC041952 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1900 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 4 Mar (MENA) — Omani Communications Minister Hammud Ibn 'Abdallah al-Harithi left Cairo this evening after a visit of a few hours. The Omani minister delivered a message to President Muhammad Husni Mubarak from Sultan Qabus Ibn Sa'id of Oman. Presidential Secretary General Sharif Majdi saw the minister off at the airport.

Mubarak To Address Joint Assembly Session 8 Mar

NC031920 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1910 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 3 Mar (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak will deliver a political speech before the joint session of the People's and Consultative Assemblies on Saturday morning, 8 March.

'Abd al-Majid Confers With EC Ambassadors

NC041641 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today met with the heads of the EC diplomatic missions. The meetings were attended by Dr Fu'ad Sultan, minister of tourism and civil aviation.

Following the meeting, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid said that the Foreign Ministry is beginning to hold a series of meetings with foreign ambassadors in Cairo to brief them on the recent events, which have merely underscored the cohesion of the Egyptian people, demonstrated their mettle, and shown their backing for the Egyptian leadership.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid stressed that it was necessary to put into effect the financial cooperation protocol and other agreements signed between Egypt and the EC.

'Abd al-Majid elaborated on the Egyptian view on its requests to the EC. He spoke highly of the EC's treatment of Egypt and noted that many EC heads of states have sent messages of support and appreciation to President Husni Mubarak.

Meanwhile, Minister Fu'ad Sultan spoke on the state of tourism in Egypt. He affirmed that the recent incidents were no hindrance to tourism and that tourists in Cairo were not affected.

Reportage on Activities in Wake of Conscript Riots

Lutfi, Interior Minister Confer

NC041602 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi met with Interior Minister Zaki Badr this morning. The meeting, which was held at the prime minister's office, was attended by Major General Dr 'Abd al-Karim Darwish and Major General Faruq al-Hini, both deputies of the interior minister.

Dr 'Ali Lutfi said that the interior minister assured him that life has returned to normal throughout the country. The situation is fully under control, and the police force is discharging its duties as usual.

The prime minister added that the Interior Ministry's draft budget for the coming fiscal year was also discussed. The budget will meet the needs of the police force as in accordance with the new policy that is aimed at updating the police services.

Badr Promises Improvements

HK040336 Hong Kong AFP in English 0305 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, March 4 (AFP) — Egypt's new interior minister General Zaki Badr said in an interview published today that he would spend six million Egyptian pounds (dollars) on improving living conditions and pay for some 282,000 police and riot brigade members.

Gen Badr also said that some 10,000 police and 7,000 members of special brigades housed in a dozen camps around the capital took part in last week's rioting, which left 36 dead and 325 injured.

Cairo has been under curfew since Wednesday and the Interior Ministry was reshuffled in the wake of the riots, which also caused some 150 million dollars worth of damage.

Interviewed by the daily *AL-AHRAM*, Gen Badr said plans to improve the security forces' salary and living conditions were being studied and that six million Egyptian pounds had been earmarked for this purpose.

The violence is said to have started because of rumors that the conscripts, who are paid almost nothing and live in poor conditions, would have to serve a fourth year. But Gen Badr refused to confirm or deny whether a plot outside the police was responsible for the rioting.

Cabinet Discusses Reconstruction, Compensation

NC041947 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1830 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi tonight chaired a Cabinet meeting. The session was devoted to a discussion of practical measures needed to repair the installations that were damaged in the criminal acts of sabotage and restore them to their former state. The Cabinet also considered how best to pay damages to citizens entitled to compensation for losses they sustained during the recent incidents.

Further Press Comment on Police Conscript Riots

Haykal Article

NC011113 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0745 GMT 1 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 1 Mar (MENA) — In his weekly column "Frankly Speaking," which is published in *AKHBAR AL-YAWM*, Muhammad Hasanayn Haykal writes an article titled: "Mubarak Is a Trust in the Conscience of Every Egyptian." He stresses that the people have placed the responsibility for Egypt's present and future on Mubarak's shoulders. By the same token, he is a trust in the conscience of every Egyptian. We must all look upon him as being above crises, differences, and independent judgments, for under Egypt's current circumstances, he is an arbiter first, and a ruler second.

The following is the text of the article:

I feel I must write a third and final article on "political decision-making in Egypt," a subject I addressed in two previous pieces. However, this can be postponed for, when there is an emergency, priorities change and breaking events take precedence over ordinary ones.

Cairo has lived through four long nights, whose darkness was broken only by the flash of shots. It has been engulfed by a silence that was disturbed only by tongues of fire. It has been afflicted by a gloominess dissipated only by loyalty to its rational and planning mind and to its faith, which inspires the hope, confidence, and conviction that this is another crisis that will exact its toll and pass, leaving an additional experience behind. Great nations are known by their experiences and nations survive by their capacity to endure.

Under such circumstances, all nations rally around their leaders, who bear the responsibility and enjoy legitimacy. They become the last resort, the vanguard, and the historic symbol.

Normally, dialogue with one's leaders is a right. In an emergency, supporting these leaders becomes one's only duty.

To stand beside legitimate leaders in an emergency is not like a party of dervishes with its pounding of drums and tambourines. This support should come through participation and all the responsibilities it entails.

There are only three ways to participate in a crisis situation: with working hands, with feelings so sympathetic as to be on the verge of melding, and through thought which opens doors or points the way. There are those who participate with their hands. Participation through feeling is open to all. Participation through thought is reserved for those who dare, provided they do not go out of bounds, and on the condition that they not get carried away by their imaginations and turn what they say into a waste of both their own time and that of their audience.

If I allow myself and dare to think as part of the effort to rally around legitimate leaders who honestly and truly enjoy the trust of their homeland, then I might say that we must take a political look at all that has happened. In doing so, we must not allow this political look to affect the legal angle, including the criminal responsibility for recent events and their repercussions.

To put it more clearly, the legal side is important. However, the political side is no less important. Thus, it might be appropriate to raise the idea of forming a special investigative committee that would be charged with examining the political aspect of the riots involving the Central Security Force.

I would like to say that the criminal investigation is important. It is a prerogative of the law. However, the political investigation is more significant. This is society's right and it is society that makes the law, and not vice versa.

In other words, the law has the power to accuse and punish but society has the right to know the greater and broader facts. While saying this, I was thinking of some remarks that have been made about the chaos that occurred in a number of Central Security camps. These comments were:

1. The Central Security Forces is the largest civilian security unit. What happened in its ranks indicates that the starting point was a collapse in discipline. This is serious.

2. This kind of breakdown in discipline in our largest security force, which was the result of what have been termed false rumors, calls for careful study. A rumor usually begins in a small, confined cell. However, it would need time to spread to a highly disciplined security force that could have confidence in the rumor under credible circumstances.

According to what we have heard, the situation suddenly became tense. This is rather strange, unless there were other factors we have not heard about.

If things did not become tense all at once, but rather escalated, what happened during the first, second, and subsequent stages of this process? It is an important question.

3. The Central Security Forces are responsible for internal security. The fact that its conscripts deserted their barracks for whatever reason and then resorted to rioting while their primary duty is to combat such acts, is an issue that goes beyond the collapse of discipline, surprise, or the escalation of a crisis due to a rumor.

4. It is difficult to accept an explanation that places the responsibility on inflammatory, instigatory, and [word indistinct] elements. We are dealing with a security force that has been trained, prepared, and even armed to fight the instigators who infiltrate large groups. For this unit to find itself in the very predicament that it has been prepared, trained, and armed to resist is a problem that affects the structure itself. It is hard to believe that it was the product of several minutes or hours.

5. In my opinion, there is no need to think about any provocation from within or without unless evidence of this is established. Had the explosion occurred in a youth group or a mass meeting, such an hypothesis would be admissible. Had it been confined to a handful of people, this would have been possible. But, for the explosion to take place in our largest internal security force, where the accused are counted by the thousand, then killed by the dozen, and the wounded by the hundred, caution becomes a top priority and circumspection a necessity.

No one can ignore the fact that Egypt might have enemies. Some of them might feign friendship. Sedition is naturally the first thing that comes to mind. Despite this, it is difficult to imagine that some of them could infiltrate a unit as large as the Central Security Forces and, through them, accomplish what has been done. As Ibn Khaldun [Arab historian] said in his clear-sighted way, it is difficult to drown while drinking a glass of water.

[Six not given]
7. Some may have noticed that what took place was more than a riot and was closer to an explosion. There was a chain of events in succession. The barracks were abandoned and an attempt was made to burn them down. Nearby hotels were attacked and an attempt was made to destroy them. Public and private places were attacked and attempts were made to loot them. A prison was stormed, its cells were opened, and the inmates were freed. Still worse was the use of weapons by the disobedient against the obedient. These actions go beyond the acknowledged limit of riots — demonstrations, stone throwing, and so on. When matters reach such explosive proportions as these, we are talking about something deeper and more serious than a riot.

8. The mass media recently have been appealing to the people's conscience with the slogan: "In whose interest..." In my opinion, this means giving a special task to the unqualified. The Central Security Forces are a state body. Their obedience or disobedience is solely the responsibility of the state. It is true that the members of this unit are drawn from the people, but it also is true that they are young men commissioned by the state for a specific number of years within a specific framework and for a specific purpose. The state has decided upon their role and outlined their functions and methods of operation. These include the logic of isolating the feelings of these young men — while they are on duty — from any involvement in the excitement on the street that they might have to put down by force in a moment of evil or premeditation.

It is only fair to point out that the official media were more enlightened this time.

9. If the goal of the slogan "In whose interest..." is to mobilize the people — and their competence in this matter is out of the question — who is this mobilization directed against, and what is its objective?

What would happen if the people lost confidence in one of the most important internal security forces, bearing in mind that this unit still has its job to do? If the Army went to the capital to maintain order, it did so because the situation required it. However, the dictates of the situation should not become a habit, as the Armed Forces have other tasks to perform — tasks related to our national honor.

10. While taking account of the fact that some officials are likely to resign, I might add that the crux of the matter is greater and more far-reaching. Resignation means the acceptance of direct responsibility and its burdens, deservedly or voluntarily. However, society has reasons that go beyond the law and all responsibility. In any case, the resignation of certain officials is an executive way out. At the same time, we are in dire need of a political means that will allow us to understand exactly what happened.

The 10 points I mentioned are phenomena that are neither simple nor straightforward. Their import and meaning are more significant than the incidents and events which they concern.

Before the results of the investigation are announced, we must seek the truth, not only through the process of public prosecution, but through politics, and not only through the law, but through the entire society as well.

I might point out that the system of political investigation committees is known and used in all democratic states. An unforeseen event might have a legal side to it, but its breath is greater than the articles of the law and their perfect phraseology. In the United States, for example, there is a system of special presidential commissions. The chief executive forms these bodies to examine exceptional and unforeseen questions having a general nature that extends beyond the authority of specific laws and bills.

The special presidential commissions in the United States usually include several public figures of diverse experience. Their frame of reference [musharatat taklif] is then defined and they are given a specific period of time to submit their findings to the president.

This is something quite different from parliamentary fact-finding committees. On a parliamentary committee, partisan interests might have some effect and views might be obscured between a majority and a minority. In contrast, the scope of a presidential commission takes on a patriotic, scientific, and objective nature, for it receives its assignment from the state's highest authority, and submits its findings directly to him.

At the outset of my talk, I said that this is a crisis that will exact its toll and pass. However, a crisis that does not provide any experience exacts a price beyond that paid in capital and profit. Furthermore, a society that does not learn from its crises is bound to see them repeated.

Finally, we have placed the responsibility for Egypt's past, present, and future on the shoulders of a man who is, in turn, a trust in the conscience of every Egyptian. We must all look upon him as being above crises, disputes, and independent judgments. Under these circumstances, he is an arbiter first and a ruler second. May God help him.

Article Asks Explanation of Riots

PM031547 Cairo AL-AHRAM International Edition in Arabic 28 Feb 86 p 1

[Chief editor Ibrahim Nafi' article: "Egypt Is the Issue"]

[Excerpts] When the smoke from the rash incidents clears, we should ask ourselves: What happened? What was the objective? And what was the result? Because the events were a total surprise, I believe that I am not the only one who looks back incredulously at what happened — the rapid and strange escalation of events in such critical circumstances when we need every effort to build, every piaster for construction, and all resources to butress democracy.

Like many others, I wonder: Did what actually happen happen in an Egypt that enables all the people's factions, through various forums, to express themselves and put their demands in a legitimate manner? Or, did this happen in another society that has no means of expression except violence and bullets?

Like many others, I wonder if what happened was "sudden" and without warning, without signs of its coming, without storm clouds? Or were there signs that nobody paid attention to or nobody understood them well enough? Did no one see the dark clouds?

Like many others, I still wonder whether the general economic situation in which the great majority of the struggling people are suffering was behind these stormy events that were started by a rumor regarding extending the service of the Central Security soldiers. Or was it a matter of a rash reaction to a cunning rumor?

I still wonder, as many others do, whether the burning of hotels, firing on innocent people, the destruction of hotels, and the smashing of cars was merely an incorrect way of expressing an opinion or was it more than that and far more serious?

I still wonder, as many others do, whether one single rumor —deliberate or otherwise, with some grounds or totally groundless — is sufficient to unleash all this blind anger, foolish recklessness, and aggressive behavior, or is it more than just a rumor and deeper than irresponsible emotionalism?

It is the right of all of us to know the truth about what happened. It is our right to know the real reasons so that we can be reassured that the remedy is correct and that the precautions taken are adequate.

We all — government and opposition — know that suffering is being endured; that there is concern and tension among certain factions; that the majority are complaining and suffering due to prices, wages, utilities, services; and that principles are unclear to youth because of some of the contradictions they see around them. We know all this but we also know that the government is doing everything possible and exerting maximum efforts to alleviate hardship, improve utilities, and increase services. We also know that the government decided to deal with the roots of the problems and to fight their causes by launching giant projects that cost billions. We know that it does not believe in patching over things that only postpone rather than do away with problems.

We all know that our country is facing difficult conditions, both internally and externally: Our problems are big, and our revenues are falling for external reasons that are beyond our control. Nevertheless, we are working and toiling, building day and night, implementing in a few years what takes other societies generations to complete, building bridges and tunnels, setting up factories, building giant drainage projects, boosting irrigation, promoting scientific and mechnical farming, and building hospitals and schools. We are doing all this in an open society that ensures for every individual freedom of expression and thought and the right to participate in his country's affairs either by support or opposition.

Now that the black clouds have dispersed, or almost dispersed, we hope that what happened will not affect Egypt's stability and democratic march. We hope that what happened will be a lesson for all of us that we are partners in the country and partners in responsibility.

But the saboteurs will pay the price for their crime of destroying public property, of threatening the security of the country and terrorizing its people, and of trying to hinder the efforts to alleviate hardships and build the future. They will be dealt with by firm military tribunals in accordance with the law. Those who have harmed their country and further bled its limited wealth will realize the extreme harm they have done to their country and people.

May God protect Egypt's security, stability, and democracy from the actions of the irresponsible ones and may God protect the Egyptian people from the designs against them by those who hate to see strength regained, stability consolidated, and democracy flourishing.

Egypt is the issue in everything that has happened and it is the hope that we should all cherish and protect with our chests and arms.

Maximum Punishment Urged

PM041517 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 28 Feb 86 p 1

[Chief editor Sa'id Sunbul article: "The Abominable Crime"]

[Text] No Egyptian can accept or understand the ugly crime committed on Egyptian soil. It was a crime against you, me, and every Egyptian in the land. It was a crime aimed at destroying the future of Egypt, which had managed to promote stability, as acknowledged by friend and foe alike.

It was a crime aimed at destroying our economy at a time when we were trying to reform and strengthen that economy and to end the economic crisis.

Those who seek to destroy our economy also seek to destroy the future of our country and our children.

It was a crime aimed at destroying democracy, which was beginning to prevail in Egypt and which had the objective of ending violence and replacing it with civilized dialogue.

Let us assume, for the sake of argument, that there was a decision to extend the term of conscripts by an additional year. Does such a decision entitle the conscripts to come out into the streets to burn cars, destroy hotels, and attack people and public and private property?

I can understand such a thing happening in a country where there is no freedom of opinion and expression. That it has happened in Egypt, where freedom of opinion and expression are confirmed facts,raises a big question mark for us all.

There can be no doubt that some people were misled and many others were deceived but it is certain that there were those who schemed and planned this abominable crime.

We will all pay the price of this crime. We have not only lost a few cars, buses, hotels, and public places. We have lost much more than that. We have lost our image. We must be patient and we must work and seek to correct our image and make up our losses.

That is why we request the severest punishment for those who tried to destroy us.

Warning on 'Uncivilized Measures'

PM041519 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 28 Feb 86 p 3

[Jalal al-Din al-Hamamsi article: "The Third Dimension of Our Domestic Front"]

[Text] The state handled the recent "serious" riots with extreme wisdom and firmness. Combined, these two factors succeeded in a highly responsible confrontation and, in the process, shed light on a third dimension in the situation. That dimension is the people who rejected the riots and did not accept them as a means of easing their suffering. The attitude of the people confirmed their strong sense of responsibility and, despite the suffering, their resolve to preserve and protect their gains — not throw them into the fire.

The difficult day, with its horrors and fears, has now passed. Whether that marked the end of the ambitions of the corruptors, the saboteurs, and, behind them, the infiltrating "fifth column" in our ranks or there are pockets still lying in wait for us, we can state, without any hesitation, that the people have won their first battle in defense of their gains and that the state can rest assured that its determination and its wise and conscious handling of the situation has added a new gain. It should consolidate that gain and not lose it by listening to some crazy advice or responding to incitement by punishing those among the public who sided with the government in its violent crisis.

I made a point of walking the streets throughout the period preceding the curfew at noon the day before yesterday. People were on their way home with unusual calmness and there were hardly any troops other than the few who were directing traffic. The people took upon themselves the task of guarding and protecting. If the people had sympathized with the saboteurs, or with those behind them, there would have been chaos in Cairo's streets and the destruction, arson, and looting would have spread as in several past occasions in our history beginning with that black Saturday in January 1952, and ending with the incidents of 18 and 19 January [1977].

What does that mean? Does it not mean that the people, despite their suffering, refuse to destroy the gains leading to an end to their suffering and to stability? That is why I want to pause at the claim that the atmosphere of incitement to which some irresponsible elements had contributed was responsible for these criminal acts. If that was categorically the case, then the streets of Cairo — crowded, congested, and disorderly as they usually are — would have witnessed an ugly situation with grave consequences.

In his civilized statement to the people, the president said that he would, in the next few days, follow the judicial investigation of all the circumstances and implications that preceded these incidents and led to their expansion and escalation in this manner.

These were truthful words that we accept and support because a judicial investigation is capable of determining what "atmosphere" was responsible for these treacherous operations. Once that happens we will not hesitate to participate in purging it in the interest of the people's gains achieved through a democratic process, which we cherish and protect, and under the canopy of a free press that appreciates and safeguards responsibility.

We perhaps have not yet forgotten how the Government of Britain — that bastion of democracy — handled serious riots that raged on for long nights in various towns over the past few years. There was arson and looting. The same thing happened in some American states. Only ordinary measures were implemented to ensure security and the criminals were punished. Everything returned to normal and law and order resumed their normal course.

The way the Egyptian Government handled the recent incidents was not much different from the methods applied by the governments of Western countries where democracy is so deeply rooted. Our move to remedy this passing situation must also be within that civilized method without listening to tendentious advice urging uncivilized measures. That would cement the people's mature solidarity and support for their government until the effects of the fifth column's attempted assault on our domestic front are eliminated.

If the criminal saboteurs have tried to burn hotels, factories, and other installations, are the sensible people supposed to burn the winning cards in the great march toward stability?

Pope Shanudah Condemns Riots

PM041013 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic
28 Feb 86 pp 1, 9

[Unattributed report: "Pope Shanudah III Says: No Religion or Reason Condones Sabotage or Harm to Peaceful People"]

[Text] Pope Shanudah III has declared that no patriot can accept this destruction, violence, and direct harm to peaceful citizens who are not involved in any problem. He added that this sabotage is neither in the interest of the country nor in the interest of those who perpetrated it and will not yield them any results. This, he said, is sabotage against the economy of Egypt, which is making every effort to repay its debts and build a strong and positive national economy. It also is sabotage against Egypt's foreign image and against tourism, which is contributing to the Egyptian economy, he added, noting that no religion or reason would condone sabotage and harm to peaceful people.

Pope Shanudah also said: We received the news of the incidents with astonishment and pain — astonishment because we did not expect Egypt to be attacked by some of its own people and pain because of the results of what has happened. We, however, were pleased with the speed with which the situation was brought under control and with which calm and security were restored and many instigators of sedition arrested. From the bottom of our hearts we thank our valiant men of the police and Armed Forces for their good efforts in restoring security and calm to the country. We declare our confidence in President Husni Mubarak and his good attitude toward running the country, and we pray God will give him strength to complete his work for Egypt and for its security and prosperity.

Egypt, Israel, U.S. Resume Tabah Talks in Cairo

NC041200 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1100 GMT 4 March 86

[Text] The new round of talks on the Tabah issue began in Cairo this morning. Attending were the delegations of experts representing Egypt, Israel, and the United States. The three delegations will continue their discussion of the bases for arbitration arrangements to resolve the issue during this round of talks.

Soviet Delegation To Visit in 'Next Few Weeks'

NC032128 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2105 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 3 Mar (MENA) — *AL-AHRAM*, in a dispatch from Moscow, reports that a ranking Soviet delegation will visit Egypt during the next few weeks. The delegation, which will be led by a senior member of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, will hold talks with Egyptian officials on relations between the two countries.

In the edition that will appear tomorrow, Tuesday, *AL-AHRAM* says that the Soviet delegation's visit to Egypt comes in response to the visit to Moscow by an Egyptian parliamentary group in August. The paper notes that preparations for the Soviet delegation's visit were begun after a meeting in February between Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and Egyptian Ambassador in Moscow Salah Basyuni.

Weekly Discusses Nasirite Leadership, Party Birth

PM281319 Cairo ROSE AL-YUSUF in Arabic
24 Feb 86 pp 18-19

[Jamal Salim article: "Why the Parties Committee Should Meet"]

[Excerpts] When I talk about neo-Nasirism, I do not mean to talk about any particular leadership and I do not mean that some personalities should be expelled from the temple — because there is no temple, there is no Jerusalem, and there are no prophets, but there are people, masses, and conflicting interests. If we are to play our part, we must organize our ranks and await the birth certificate from the judiciary.

The battle is not one of signs, names, or leadership. It is a battle of national unity. The Nasirite factions constitute a force in the Egyptian and Arab arenas that should take its place and play its part but not under the leadership of Kamal Ahmad, Farid 'Abd al-Karim, 'Ali Sabri, or Khalid 'Abd al-Nasir. We fully respect and appreciate these figures but they do not represent anything more than the work they do and the degree to which they enrich the nationalist movement, its unity, development, and advancement. By the nationalist movement we mean the Nasirite movement. Between July 1952 and October 1973, no voice could rise above the voice of the battle and all attempts to avoid the battle failed.

We call for a meeting of the parties committee to give our party the eagle's seal without waiting for the decision of the judiciary, which we fully trust. There are many urgent tasks awaiting us.

The first such task is protection of the great July achievements without dwelling too long on who should lead the Nasirite movement.

I believe that many friends have rendered, and still are rendering great services to the Nasirite movement without looking in one direction or another and without expecting a reward or a prize. For, example, I believe that Mahmud al-Sa'dani, who is still brandishing his hammer to crush the idols of Abraham's people and expose the suspect relationship between the Wafd Party and some NDP wings to muzzle the nasirites, is a thousand times more honorable than any leader or pretender seeking applause for his speeches and his utterances or for his condescending to work with the masses.

I believe that Muhammad Fa'iq, who was information minister under 'Abd al-Nasir and who now runs one of the biggest publication houses in Egypt — the one that has published a series of books and studies on Nasirism and on the Arab movement and ideology — is a thousand times bigger and more honorable than the mercenaries who boast about 'Abd al-Nasir and Nasirism for personal gains.

I believe that Diya' al-Din Dawud, member of the higher executive committee under 'Abd al-Nasir, is a unique example of defiance and relentless work in defense of the July revolution and its leader 'Abd al-Nasir against the lies and fabrications made about them.

In Egypt, there is a front of Nasirites who are doing their work faithfully and sincerely and whose mouths do not water at the sight of gifts.

We call for a meeting of the parties committee to issue a birth certificate for the Nasirite Party so that it can begin to play its role again and contribute to the protection of the July achievements, which the counterrevolutionary forces want to destroy in order to have a free hand to do what they like.

Iran Warned Against Using Towns for Attacks

JN041707 Baghdad INA in English 1630 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] United Nations, March 4, INA — Iraq today warned the UN Security Council that Iran is continuing to use Iranian towns close to the Iraqi border to mass troops which from there wage a constant expansionist aggression against Iraq.

In a letter addressed to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and distributed to the Security Council, Iraqi UN Ambassador 'Ismat Kittani noted that Iraq has warned repeatedly against Iran's use of civilian centers as rallying points for its troops and as bases for attacks against Iraqi territory.

By using these towns and villages, the Iraqi letter warned, the Iranian regime makes them the targets of Iraqi bombing raids on armed Iranian units which are ready to attack Iraq in order to occupy and subjugate it and strip it of its land in defiance of obligations entered into formally by Iran under the UN Charter and international law.

Further on Ibrahim Meeting With Kurdish Volunteers

JN041344 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim has affirmed that anyone siding with Iraq's enemies whose target is our land, values, and culture has no connection, even a small one, with this dear land, the cradle of values and the place of heroic deeds. At a meeting with the advisers of the light detachments of the sons of our Kurdish people in the city of Al-Sulaymaniyah, Ibrahim said that history will have no mercy on anyone who claims to be affiliated to the homeland and at the same time collaborates with our enemies, especially when he becomes an obedient tool of treason manipulated by foreign invading hands whose target is this struggling country, the nation, and mankind's noble passage through life.

'Izzat Ibrahim added that dealing with the evil invaders against the homeland is the peak of treason and that he who sides with the homeland when it is subjected to danger embodies the brightest example of its sons' unity in defending their honor and land. He said that the blood of gracious martyrs from the heroic, good sons of our Kurdsih people will remain medals of pride that adorn the history of people who are now defending, along with all Iraqis under struggler president Saddam Husayn, the well-being, progress, and prosperity that Iraq enjoys from north to south.

The vice chairman said: I convey to you the greetings of leader President Saddam Husayn and his pride in your honorable and courageous stand which has taught the enemy that he must think very carefully before even dreaming of attacking any part of our Iraq, north or south, because the Iraqis — Army and people are standing as an impregnable wall.

Afterward, RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat met with members of the Ba'th Party's northern branch. He said that the Ba'thist strugglers translate their party's principles into reality and write with their blood epics of struggle for the sake of the glory of Iraq and the nation under the leadership of comrade struggler Saddam Husayn. The party's strugglers and light detachment advisers pledged to President Saddam Husayn and the homeland that their chests will be a wall that defends Iraq and that the invaders will never pass through this wall regardless of sacrifices.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran

Military Activities Updated

JN050705 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0625 GMT 5 Mar 86

[By Usamah al-Salihi]

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 5 Mar (INA) — The Iraqi forces on the southern VII Army Corps front are preparing themselves for a new advance to crush the besieged Iranian forces in Al-Faw Peninsula. Military operations in this front are taking place in accordance with a well-studied plan by the military command seeking to minimize Iraqi losses and inflict the heaviest losses on the Iranian war machine.

The three columns in the VII Army Corps sector are enhancing their control of the battlefield. The southern column continues to consolidate its control on important junctions on the coast, fortify its positions, and intensify its fire against the Iranian positions. In the central and northern columns, the Iraqi fighters are entrenching their positions and stepping up their strikes against the Iranian positions opposite them which have been weakened following the crushing of the Iranian offensive last Monday and the destruction of two divisions.

Iraqi planes, in addition to setting Iranian positions on fire and destroying them, are preventing supplies from reaching the besieged Iranian forces. Since the beginning of the fighting on 9 February, Iraqi planes have carried out 11,507 combat missions.

Air Units Play 'Prominent' Role

JN041230 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1140 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Mar (INA) — The director of Iraqi Army air units has stated that the circumstances of the war with Iran made the air units play a prominent and decisive role in the battles the Iraqi Armed Forces have waged. Major General al-Hakam Hasan 'Ali, in an interview with *AL-QADISIYAH* magazine, which specializes in military affairs, explained the specific traits that the Iraqi Army's aircraft enjoy, stressing that this force has improved the equipment it possesses and adopted new methods with which we surprise the enemy and the world at large in all big battles.

He added that the Army's air units have vast experience which no one imagines they have. We refuse to speak about it because it is part of Iraq's national wealth. It is also one of the most lethal weapons because the efficiency of any weapon is judged in light of those who use it.

Staff Maj Gen al-Hakam Hasan 'Ali said that Iraqi air units possess huge means they have not introduced in battle. They have much that the enemy does not expect and are ready to use it within the framework of specific strategies and directives and in accordance with well-defined plans. He stressed the Iraqi helicopter gunships can carry out all the missions they are asked to perform to support the ground forces. They can operate efficiently even if there is more than one battle in more than one sector.

He explained that Iraq has succeeded in obtaining sophisticated weapons from various sources in addition to obtaining very sophisticated technological means containing the most advanced applications of military science. He added that Iraq has also obtained new sophisticated planes in spite of the war circumstances.

The Iraqi Army's air units director stressed that Iraqi air units have destroyed a large number of Iranian planes and captured others. The Iranian regime has only a few planes left, most of which are not operational in view of shortages of equipment, spare parts, and armament, not to mention the many Iranian pilots who have sought refuge in Iraq with their planes.

Concluding his interview, the Iraqi official said that Iraqi air units possess rich experience coupled with important developments in armaments. They are operating in accordance with a specific theory on the optimal use of the Army's air power as an important support corps for the ground forces. He also stressed that this force possesses qualified military cadres, which many countries lack.

Leaflets Call for Iranian Surrender

JN042123 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2040 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Southern sector, 4 Mar (INA) — The Iraqi forces have warned the Iranian regime's forces of certain death if they do not surrender to formations of our brave forces which are advancing toward them from all directions. Tens of thousands of leaflets urging the aggressor forces to surrender have been dropped over Iranian positions since dawn today. The leaflets stressed that total annihilation will be the fate of all the invading forces, which are besieged in a narrow strip in the Al-Faw triangle, unless they respond and raise white flags or any other white piece of cloth.

An INA team said that the contents of these leaflets were also read to the aggressors over loudspeakers. Staff General 'Adnan Khayrallah, deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces and defense minister, had earlier called on the remaining besieged Iranian forces to surrender to our forces to avoid the inferno which awaited them.

Communique No 2,136 Issued

JN041800 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1700 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Communique No 2,136 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 4 March 1986]

[Excerpt] The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. Our triumphant forces on the VII Army Corps front, supported by Air Force planes, helicopter gunships, and artillery fire, continued to pound enemy units opposite them, inflicting heavy losses on enemy personnel and equipment. Confusion prevailed among enemy units and our positions monitored large-scale evacuations of the dead and wounded Khomeyniite forces which were besieged in a narrow strip in the Al-Faw Peninsula.

Our forces are continuing to fortify their positions and complete preparations in order to advance on all axes. The activities of last night and today proved the enemy's inability to undertake any activity worth mentioning against our forces as a result of the heavy losses sustained by its forces yesterday when the Iranian 31st and 41st Divisions were destroyed by the brave men of the central column.

2. Squadrons of our bold aircraft continued their violent raids today in order to punish the aggressors for their abominable attacks against our country and to kill their knaves and destroy their equipment, weapons, and camps. Our eagles carried out 323 combat missions during which they killed a large number of the Khomeyniite rogues and destroyed their equipment. At 0735 [0435 GMT] today our eagles launched a raid on the Shadegan camp, destroying enemy concentrations, military supply depots, and oil reservoirs. They also destroyed an enemy gunboat in the northern part of the Arab Gulf near the Iranian coast at 0920 today. They also destroyed the Taheri bridge on the Karun River.

After carrying out all their missions, the brave eagles returned safely to the homeland, God be praised.

3. The brave cavaliers of the helicopter gunships continued their assaults all day long. They poured their annihilative bombs down on enemy troops and equipment, inflicting death on enemy units and destruction on their weapons and positions. They carried out 283 combat missions after which they returned safely and triumphantly to base. We thank God for His support.

4. The enemy suffered the following confirmed losses as a result of its attack on our units on the night of 27 February in the oeprational area of the Al-Siddiq Forces in the I Army Corps sector, in addition to the losses mentioned in previous communiques: a. forty enemy troops killed; b. seven 106 mm guns destroyed; c. one tank destroyed; d. one 107 mm launcher destroyed; e. three machineguns destroyed; and f. five vehicles of various types destroyed.

Thus, total enemy losses opposite the Al-Siddiq Forces amounts to 490 dead. Elsewhere in the same sector, a brave force from one of our formations managed in an efficient combat operation to kill 30 enemy troops and to destroy 2 vehicles, 1 DSHK machinegun, and 2 infantry positions. The force then returned safely to base.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 4 March 1986

King Husayn Receives Jerusalem Delegation

JN042035 Amman Television Service in English 2000 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] His majesty the king has said Jordan will continue to support the heroic steadfastness of kinsmen in occupied territories, particularly in occupied Arab Jerusalem which lives in our hearts and conscience.

Addressing a delegation representing the citizens of occupied Arab Jerusalem at the royal court today, his majesty said that since 1974, the PLO has done all that it could with our support to rescue the Arab population in the occupied territory, but it did not succeed in doing so.

His majesty said: One year after the conclusion of the February 11th accord between Jordan and the PLO, we were about to begin the phase of convening a UN-sponsored international conference on the Middle East with PLO participation to reach a comprehensive peace settlement based on peace in return for the land, but the PLO leadership went back on its agreement with Jordan and Jordan had to present the issue to the people, since it involves all of them.

Mr 'Asim Ghawshah, speaking on behalf of the citizens of occupied Jerusalem, paid tribute to the efforts of his majesty and voiced support for his political line and wise leadership.

The audience was attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the prime minister, and the chief of the royal court.

Israel Closes Jerusalem Electricity Company

JN050740 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Amman — Minister of Occupied Territories' Affairs Dr Tahir Kan'an has said that the Israeli occupation authorities are always trying to destroy the symbols of Arab identity and to close national institutions in Jerusalem and in the other parts of the occupied Arab territories. In a statement to PETRA-JNA on the Israeli occupation authorities' decision to close the Jerusalem Electricity Company, Dr Kan'an said: The pretext that the company is in debt is illegitimate because its indebtedness is due to the Israeli authorities' violation fo the company's concession law, which provides for a minimum margin of profit for the company in order to cover its expenses. Nevertheless, the Israeli authorities have imposed unrealistic tariffs on the company that led to loss and indebtedness. Dr Kan'an also pointed out that this decision is similar to the occupation authorities' decision to close the Hospice Hospital in Jerusalem. He explained that the Israeli occupation authorities are trying to create financial difficulties for national institutions and then use these difficulties to justify closing them. The Israeli occupation authorities officially closed the company today because of debts amounting to $12 million due to the Israeli Electricity Company.

Phalangist Officials Confer With Papal Nuncio

NC042150 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
2015 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Dr Elie Karamah and the members of a Phalangist Party delegation visited Papal Nuncio Luciano Angeloni and Monsignor Gatti today. After the meeting, Karamah said: We conducted a general discussion of the Lebanese situation, with special emphasis on the Vatican's initiative. We also exchanged views on possible ways of breaking the current deadlock in the country. In addition, we expressed our thanks for the Vatican's efforts to end the state of war in Lebanon. Relations with Syria were touched on as well. We reiterated our position on this. Our talks were serious and covered a wide range of issues. They will be productive, God willing.

When asked if he was briefed on the true nature of Monsignor Silvestrini's mission in the region, Karamah replied: Monsignor Silvestrini will be helping Lebanon until it overcomes its present difficulties. The Vatican has more power than some are ready to admit and it is serious about making a contribution to ending the state of war here.

For his part, Dr Samir Ja‘ja‘ visited the papal legation along with a delegation from the Lebanese Forces. He noted afterward: The Vatican is apparently determined to act on the Lebanese crisis. Therefore, we wanted to supply them with the right information and the necessary details. If they are well-informed, they will be in a better position to find the right course of action. They have been good listeners.

As to whether he detected any change in the Vatican's attitude toward the Lebanese crisis and the Christian issue, Ja‘ja‘ pointed out: Unfortunately, certain parties in the Vatican had gotten the wrong idea about the Lebanese crisis in the past. However, they are getting a better feel for it and I hope their ongoing initiative is the result of this.

When asked if he had presented any definite ideas on the direction the Vatican should take in its future contacts with Syria, Ja‘ja‘ responded: We put forward some definite ideas about the Lebanese issue but the Vatican itself is in a better position to decide on its own course of action.

Ja‘ja‘ concluded by stating that the date of Silvestrini's visit to Lebanon has yet to be fixed.

Phalangist Party Refutes Hizballah Bombing Claims

NC041625 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1515 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] A responsible source in the Phlangist Party has commented on claims by the security mobilization apparatus of Hizballah to the effect that the Phlangist Party was involved in the Bi‘r al-‘Abd and other explosions. The source has emphasized that such allegations are examples of the false plots and intrigues against the Phalangist Party, which struggles with dignity for the homeland and which rejects all treacherous practices that waste the lives of the Lebanese people, particularly the innocent ones. The Lebanese public is aware of the real nature of the Phalangist Party, which has become accustomed to such accusations and falsehoods. These are used by some people to gain certain ends and to cover up the violations that they commit.

South Responds to Birri's Call for Strike

NC041233 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] The south today responded to Minister Nabih Birri's call for a comprehensive strike to commemorate the martyrdom of resistance leaders Muhammad Sa‘d and Khalil Jradi, who were killed in the Zionist explosions in the Al-Husayni mosque in the town of Ma‘rakah on 4 March 1985. The slogan of the strike is "Continued resistance; martyrdom until victory."

Birri, Junblatt Attend Meeting With Syria's Khaddam

Birri Leaves for Damascus

NC041332 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 4 Ar 86

[Text] The Syrian capital is preparing to convene expanded meetings with the higher national political leadership under the auspices of Syrian Vice President ‘Abd al-Halim Khaddam. The purpose of these meetings is to review measures necessary to revive the Damascus agreement and to assess the political situation in Lebanon, in light of the latest developments, considering confrontation of all the political possibilities.

Lawyer Nabih Birri, minster of state for the south and reconstruction affairs, left Beirut for Damascus this morning to participate in these meetings.

'National Command' Planned

NC041828 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1715 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] An extended meeting of West Beirut political leaders is expected to be held within the next 48 hours. The conferees will draw up an outline for the formation of a national command that will be responsible for security and will draft a plan of action for the next stage. Ministers Walid Junblatt and Nabih Birri, as well as Deputy Munir Abu Fadil and Robert Franjiyah, have arrived in Damascus.

Birri, Junblatt Meet Khaddam

NC050723 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain
in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] There were talks in Damascus last night in preparation for today's national meeting. Attending these talks were Walid Junblatt, who returned from Moscow during the night; Nabih Birri, minister of state for south and reconstruction affairs; Munir Abu Fadil, deputy speaker of the Chamber of Deputies; and Marwan Hamadah. They met with Syrian Vice president ‘Abd al-Halim Khaddam to discuss all the developments in the Lebanese arena.

Another meeting will be held today and Robert Franjiyah, Elie Hubayqah, Michel al-Murr, and Michel Samahah will attend it.

Karami Talks to Teachers, Discusses Kidnapping Issue

NC031102 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1000 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami arrived at Government House in Beirut from Tripoli today. He is scheduled to chair a meeting of the West Beirut Coordination Committee at 1300. The prime minister has received a delegation representing various teaching groups. They discussed the kidnapping of teachers.

Now that teacher Antoine Shukri has been released, the march called for by student and teaching groups has been canceled. however, a strike will take place as scheduled.

Further on Clashes in Beirut, Mountain Areas

'Guarded Calm' Reported

NC041247 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Guarded calm is prevailing on the contact lines in Beirut and its southern suburb. The Security Committee has not reported any violations worth mentioning, apart from sporadic sniper fire. Clashes took place this morning at the commercial markets, the Ra's Al-Nab', and Primo lines. A shell fell on the roof of a building in the Al-Nuwayri area at 1130, causing material damage.

It has been reported that machinegun fire has been exchanged on Baysur Road and in the Al-Khazzanat area in the mountain.

In another development, an RPG exploded on Corniche Al-Mazra'ah while a Mercedes was passing at 1300 today. The Mercedes was destroyed but its driver escaped unhurt.

Movement has been normal on the museum and the Francisan crossing points by military personnel, members of the diplomatic corps, deputies, and journalists, with their special permits. The Al-Masalih-Qasqas crossing remains closed. There has been the usual amount of traffic on the Al-Kafa'at-Al-Murayjah crossing.

Army Under Fire in Beirut, Mountain

NC041556 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1525 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] We have just received the following from our newsdesk: The security situation became tense a short while ago along the Science faculty-Al-'Amrusiyah-Al-Laylakah combat lines. Army positions there are coming under intermittent shelling, which is reaching as far afield as the outskirts of Al-Hadath and Al-Antuniyah. We have also learned that Army positions in the mountain area are being subjected to rocket and artillery shellfire.

Army Under 'Intensive' Shelling

NC041610 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1555 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Fighting has become fiercer along the Science faculty-Al-'Amrusiyah-al-Laylakah combat lines. Intensive shelling is now being directed at Army positions in the area. Meanwhile, the Al-Hadath area has been coming under indiscriminate shelling since 1730.

Junblatt Forces Hit Army Posts

NC041655 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Fierce fighting between Army units and southern suburb gunmen is continuing along the Science faculty-Al-'Amrusiyah-Al-Laylakah combat lines. Shells are reaching Al-Hadath and Al-Antuniyah, beyond the combat lines.

In the mountain area, Junblatt gunmen have broadened the scope of their attacks on Army positions, including all the posts in Suq al-Gharb. Concentrated 122-mm heavy artillery fire is being directed at Army positions from Shimlan, Baysur, 'Aytat, and 'Alayh. Posts on the demarcation line also have come under similar fire. However, no casualties have been recorded.

A number of shells fell on the area between Brummana and Bayt Miri at 1810. A ceasefire was called at 1815.

'Calm' Returns; Cease-Fire Set

NC042029 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] The combat lines in Beirut, the southern suburb, and in Al-Shiyah, Al-Laylakah, and Ra's al-Nab' in particular, are now calm, although there are sporadic bursts of sniper fire. The Security Committee has announced that a cease-fire will go into effect at 2030 along the Dahr al-Wahsh and 'Alayh lines. Renewed clashes involving the use of machineguns and rockets erupted along these lines at 2000.

Resistance Attacks Lahd Positions in South

NC041940 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] The united National Resistance issued the following statement this evening:

The united National Resistance groups, which operate inside the occupied territories, carried out two heroic operations against agent Lahd positions in the occupied Lebanese territories last night.

A group that operates within the occupied territories attacked a position held by agent Lahd militias near Kafra and Yatar. A 10-minute clash ensued between the group and militia reinforcements. The group returned safely to base. Israeli helicopters were seen removing casualties from the position concerned.

A second Lebanese united National Resistance group launched an attack on an agent Lahd position near Bayt Yahun. A 15-minute clash broke out between the group and agent militias. Several persons manning the post were killed or wounded. The group returned safely to base.

Syrians Set Curfew on Al-Biqa' Christian Villages

NC050841 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] Information from western Al-Biqa' indicates that the Syrian forces have imposed a curfew on the Christian villages to extend from 1700 until 0600 daily, starting this week. The information says that these forces are building huge fortifications on the line dividing them from the Israeli troops.

3 Killed in Sidon Explosion; Report on Clashes Denied

NC051048 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1000 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] A booby-trapped Renault 30 exploded at 1035 today near the Al-'Alaylah station opposite Iliya Hospital on the Sidon-Jazzin road in Sidon. A military expert estimated that the explosive charge contained 50 kg of TNT.

According to the latest information, three men were killed in the explosion: Fatimah 'Awadah, Husayn Fawwaz, and an as yet unidentified person. A number of others were wounded and taken to Hammud Hospital. One person was seriously wounded and transported to the American University Hospital in Beirut. More than 10 cars were burned and nearby buildings were damaged.

Radios have reported that a clash has taken place between gunmen from the Amal Movement and the Nasirite Popular Organization in Sidon.

In reality, following the explosion of the car, personnel from the Popular Liberation Army and the Amal Movement spread out in the area and shot into the air with their machineguns to clear the roads for the fire department and Red Cross vehicles.

Memo to UN Lists Acts of Israeli Repression

JN041206 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva — Syria's permanent envoy to the United Nations in Geneva has submitted a memorandum to the human rights committee in which he lists the arbitrary and repressive measures against Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian territories. The memo calls for adopting the necessary resolution to denounce the Israeli enemy and to force it to stop these hostile actions against our citizens in the occupied territories.

Golan Oppression Condemned

JN041225 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1126 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, Syria has again alerted the United Nations to the dangers resulting from Israel's aggressive and oppressive policy in the occupied Golan. This followed the large-scale arrest campaigns against Syrian Arab citizens in the Golan who refuse to submit to the will of the Israeli occupiers and who have continued their daily struggle for 19 years against Judaization, oppression, and psychological warfare. They hold to their land, which cannot but be Syrian Arab land.

Israel has made its calculations on the basis of imposing its occupation of the Golan and other Arab territories as a fait accompli. Israel has gone so far in its arrogance as to believe that once the United Nations has failed to carry out its own resolutions to retrieve the occupied territories and to prevent their Judaization or any change in their geographic, demographic, and political character, the time factor would then help it annex these territories to its aggressive and expansionsit entity.

However, the time factor has not prevented Syrian Arab citizens from struggling against the Israeli occupation authorities, just as it has not prevented Palestinian Arab citizens in the West Bank and Gaza, and even in the areas occupied since 1948, from engaging in daily struggle to liberate their land and will and to remove the Zionist occupation nightmare. The time factor has also not prevented Lebanese citizens and the national resistance in the south from improving their struggle methods, forcing the Zionist invaders to retreat time and again, turning southern Lebanon into a battlefield of a daily war of attrition against the occupation forces and their agents inside and outside the so-called security strip, and reaching the Israeli settlements on the northern border of occupied Palestine.

Therefore, the time factor provides the strugglers with the suitable circumstances that enable them to wrest their rights. On the other hand, time is a negative factor for those who try to check the evolution of history and to challenge the international community's will and laws. Nazism tried to impose its will on the world and made its calculations on the basis that its military superiority would fulfill its dream to control peoples' destinies in the five continents. Nazism's fatal error was its disdain for peoples and their ability to do anything once they decided todefend themselves and their destinies. Nazism collapsed under peoples' blows.

However, the Zionist Nazis have not learned the lessons of history. All the resolutions, warnings, and condemnations issued by the United Nations and the international community against their aggressive, oppressive, and expansionsit policy have had no effect on them. In fact, their actions have become more savage and rancorous out of their belief that terrorism, annihilation, and turning the occupied areas into a big prison would suppress the struggle and steadfastness of the Arab citizens, who are proving daily that their struggle is the factor that cannot be cancelled or eradicated. Peoples fighting for the liberation of their land are always triumphant.

Khaddam Receives Lebanon's Shaykh Sha'ban

JN041158 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Damascus — Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban at 1000 today. Shaykh Sha'ban is accompanied by Malik 'Allush and Nasir Murad. The talks dealt with the current situation in Lebanon.

Progressive Front Reviews Political Situation

JN041152 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Damascus — The Progressive National Front Central Command met under Dr Emuhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, vice president and deputy chairman of the Front at 1200 today. The Front's Central Command reviewed the political situation in the Arab region and the recent developments in the Arab and Lebanese arenas. The Front's Central Command greeted the Egyptian people's upheaval which expressed the Egyptian people's anger against the Camp David accords and the capitulationist course which isolated Egypt from the Arab nation's causesand deprived it from its free will and its national and pan-Arab decisionmaking.

The Front's Central Command considered President al-Asad's speech at the People's Assembly as an honest and sincere expression of the aspirations of our nation and people. The Front's Central Command expressed its appreciation for all the national and pan-Arab ideas included in this important historic speech. The front's Central Command expressed appreciation for Syria's national and pan-Arab stand under President Hafiz al-Asad toward confronting the plans and plots Zionism and U.S. imperialism are attempting to impose on the Arab region.

Peres Interviewed on Egyptian Riots, PLO Policy

PM031331 Paris LE MATIN in French 28 Feb 86 pp 16-17

[Interview with Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres by Benoit Rayski and Shalom Kohen — date and place not given]

[Excerpt] *LE MATIN*: Serious events have just taken place in Egypt — a country which is close to you because it is the only Arab state to have reached a peace agreement with Israel. What is your view of what is happening there?

Shim'on Peres: Mubarak is a stabilizing factor. I hope he will overcome the current problems.

LE MATIN: Who do you think is behind these events?

Shim'on Peres: It is not a question of who is responsible but why they occurred. There are three kinds of people's movements today. A people's movement aimed at democracy, as in the Philippines, Argentina, and elsewhere. There are religious fundamentalist movements as in Iran and, to a lesser extent, in Lebanon. The third kind of movement stems from economic problems. The events in Egypt are the result of such a movement.

Egypt has a real problem connected with the increase in its population coupled with the fall in oil prices. It is not just a question of the reduction in Egypt's oil revenue itself but a whole series of economic upheavals caused by this fall. Revenue from the Suez Canal has fallen because of the reduction in the number of oil tankers passing through. There are 2 or 3 million Egyptian workers working abroad, especially in the Gulf countries: The wages they were sending home have fallen considerably. Egypt has lost the equivalent of $4 billion in this period. This is a huge amount when you realize that Egypt's gross national product is around $30 billion. That is why Mubarak is facing a serious problem.

LE MATIN: In Israel representatives of the right, and of Likud, which is your ally in the government, have expressed satisfaction at the events in Egypt. They say that it will now no longer be necessary to hand back Tabah (the enclave on the Red Sea which Mubarak wants to regain). They think that this shows the instability of Arab regimes and that it is not worth negotiating with them....

Shim'on Peres: This is not a responsible attitude. A tragedy for the Arabs is not necessarily a victory for Israel. The Arabs are not our enemies. It is hatred and the desire for war which are our enemies. As I have said, I hope that Mubarak will overcome the present difficulties.

LE MATIN: Several prominent foreign leaders — Reagan, Husayn of Jordan, 'Arafat — have sent messages of support to Mubarak, would it be difficult for you to do likewise?

Shim'on Peres: Not at all. But I do not know whether a message from me would help Mubarak. My position is clear and I said publicly: I hope Mubarak will win this battle for Egypt and for peace.

LE MATIN: But this same Mubarak supports Yasir 'Arafat. Syrian President al-Asad, on the other hand, wants 'Arafat brought down and you regard him as enemy number one. Do you take into account the Arab states' policy toward the PLO leader?

Shim'on Peres: 'Arafat presents a problem. He is the biggest obstacle to peace. He is also an obstacle to the Palestinians who are seeking a solution. You see, Husayn has sincerely tried to have discussions with 'Arafat for 1 year: He has achieved nothing. The question is not whether or not 'Arafat is the Palestinian people's authentic representative. What counts is his policy. For instance, 40 years ago Haj 'Amin al-Husayni, the mufti of Jerusalem, was the authentic representative of the whole Arab world. It was he who created the Palestinian problem by his extremism. You can see that it is primarily a matter of political choice and not necessarily representativeness.

LE MATIN: Just suppose Yasir 'Arafat changed policy.

Shim'on Peres: I am tired of hearing this question, because it creates an illusion. Yasir 'Arafat has been PLO leader for 20 years. We have been in a position to judge his policy for 20 years and I cannot imagine him changing it in the next 2 months.

LE MATIN: Does the split between Husayn and 'Arafat strike you as a positive development?

Shim'on Peres: Yes, because it shows how things really are. The Palestinians must now choose what they prefer: 'Arafat without a solution or a solution without 'Arafat.

LE MATIN: With which Palestinians do you want to negotiate, and do you think a direct agreement with the West Bank Arabs can be achieved?

Shim'on Peres: We are prepared for such an agreement. The question is are there Palestinians who have the courage to face the terrorism which threatens them if they negotiate with us. This is a real threat. They are physically afraid. This terrorism is a danger to the very destiny of the Palestinians and the Arabs. It may destroy all peace options. What can we do? It is not the problem which has created terrorism, it is terrorism which has created the Palestinian problem.

LE MATIN: Prime Minister, you are sharing power with men who were your opponents for a long time. Is the policy you are implementing your policy or the result of a compromise with them?

Shim'on Peres: A policy cannot be judged on the basis of individuals but on its results. Our government has been in existence for 18 months, and its results are good.

Peres Contemplating 'New Initiatives' in Mideast

TA041458 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1451 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] The prime minister has said that the most important thing is not to abandon the peace initiative. He is currently contemplating new initiatives in various areas related to the peace process. Shim'on Peres suggests setting up in the Middle East a fund similar to the Marshall Plan, which would link economic activity in the area to progress in the political process. The prime minister says that one should not despair of the devolution of authority upon the inhabitants of Judaea and Samaria. We do not want to conduct the Arab's affairs, he said.

Formulating Gaza Self-Rule Plan

TA041246 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 4 Mar 86 p 1

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] The Prime Minister's Office is working out a detailed plan to implement self-rule in the Gaza Strip. The *HA'ARETZ* correspondent has learned that several discussions in which members of the military government and former governors participated were recently held on this subject.

Appearing before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee yesterday, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres said he regretted that the plan nicknamed "Gaza First" was not implemented previously. According to experts, the demographic and economic situation in Gaza might cause extreme tension in the area. These experts warn that the birthrate in the Strip and the large number of refugees among the population might cause the region to become more problematic than the West Bank.

The plan proposes that the number of Israelis employed in civilian offices that manage matters in the Strip be reduced to a minimum. Even today, more than half the posts have been entrusted to local residents. It has been learned that the possibility of reappointing former Gaza Mayor Rashad al-Shawwa to the same position, and appointing one of his sons as his deputy, was recently raised. Owing to the difficult economic situation in the Gaza Strip, there are plans to approve the extablishment of a citrus fruit factory, thus preventing the uprooting of more orchards in addition to those in the Strip which have already been uprooted because of difficulties in marketing the fruit.

It has been learned that sources in the Prime Minister's Office believe that applying self-rule in the Gaza Strip would meet with less opposition than that which could be expected from such a plan in the West Bank. This is because of the relatively fewer settlements in the Gaza Strip, and because the region is not as politically sensitive.

Locals To Administer Gaza Strip

TA041504 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 2 Mar 86 p 1

[Text] *AL-QUDS* has learned that Israeli authorities have begun training a number of department directors and senior officials in the Gaza Strip to assume the functions of the administration in the Strip. It is noteworthy that Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres had announced that he supports implementation of the autonomy plan in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, with the plan first being launched in Gaza.

The training of these employees began some 10 days ago, with the trainee spending 3 days a week for this purpose. It is known that the majority of heads of government organizations in Gaza are local inhabitants, and these organizations existed since the days of the Egyptian administration in the Strip before the 1967 war.

Rabin: Israel Can Run W. Bank If Necessary

TA050609 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] What has been will continue to be — this is in fact the conclusion of Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin from the frustrating murder of Zafir al-Masri in Nabulus. In an interview with our correspondent, the defense minister voices his assessment that we will have to go on running the territories with the help of the staff officers of the Civilian Administration. IDF officers run the city councils excellently, Rabin noted. In a talk with our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal, the defense minister said that Israel had tried to enable the local inhabitants to run their own lives while maintaining a permanent presence in the area. This was a gesture of goodwill on our part, but we can do things differently, he warned.

[Begin recording] [Rabin] If the local inhabitants do not want to or if they are intimidated and terrorized by the use of murder by outside elements, we can go on running our [as heard] affairs in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza as we have done so far with less involvement on their part.

[Tal] Is this going to be the case?

[Rabin] As you know, at this stage all the candidates who regarded themselves as prospective mayors in Ramallah and Al-Birah have withdrawn their candidacies. Such being the case, we have officers serving as mayors in those places who, in my opinion, have been doing an excellent job for the well-being of the local inhabitants. Therefore, if prospective candidates do not come forth we will continue to hold and rule over those areas until a political solution acceptable to the Israeli Government and an Arab government ready to conduct peace negotiations with us is found.

[Tal] Mr Rabin, King Husayn has stated that as far as he is concerned, the sole representatives of the Palestinians are still the PLO'S men. Do you foresee a political freeze or a freeze in the political process which had been in the offing?

[Rabin] In my opinion, in his major speech the Jordanian king denounced the PLO as the main reason for foiling the process. We will have to wait and see what he says today and what he says a week from now. At the moment, there is no sign that Jordan is prepared to enter peace negotiations with Israel on its own, without the consent or participation of the PLO or Syria. I suggest that we not despair and arm ourselves with patience.

Gentlemen, we can go on holding Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza without any particular problems. There are difficulties; terror has to be dealt with, the standard of living and the quality of life must be improved. However, if there will ever be a chance for peace negotiations with Jordan it will only come true if we emphasize that we are able to hold on to those territories and that they cannot influence our breathing space. And, as I see it, Israel has the breathing space to stand up to all these challenges.

[Tal] Mr Rabin, in the last few days there have been statements in Israel expressing anxiety over what might happen on the border with Syria, over a flare-up there. Do you share this anxiety?

[Rabin] We have always said that the only area where there is a potential threat of a military conflagration — the stress being on the word potential — which need not materialize is on the Syrian-Israeli border. We are aware of this and we are taking the appropriate measures within the constrictions forced on us by the cuts in the defense budget. [end recording]

Egypt's Khalil: Riots Unrelated to Bilateral Ties

TA041216 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 4 Mar 86 pp 1, 9

[Report by Smadar Peri from Cairo]

[Excerpts] "You in Israel do not have to respond to everything that happens to us in Egypt by panicking. You should not have any hesitations whatsoever about the stability of peace, and you do not need to reexamine the situation. We intend to keep all promises and obligations. Those in Israel who get excited — andthere is no need for this — should pay attention to a simple fact: During the duration of the riots, Israel's name was not mentioned even once."

These remarks were made yesterday by Dr Mustafa Khalil, former Egyptian prime minister and Mubarak's current deputy in the ruling party in Egypt.

"This is a domestic issue which has no connection to Israeli-Egyptian relations. You should ask yourselves: Why should peace be affected by an internal, domestic matter?

"If Israel nevertheless gets excited over developments in our country," Dr Khalil said, "You have a way to make your own contribution: If an achievement could be made in the negotiations which are currently underway, this would be beneficial and would lead to an improvement in relations.

"If we had wanted to cover up the facts, we could have requested that your delegation of directors general take the circumstances into consideration and postpone the negotiations, and in this way we could have hidden the destruction that occurred in Egypt. We think, however, that is better to inform the people, and also you, the Israelis, of what happened. I am pleased to point out that Israel reacted with restraint, and did not interfere in our domestic matters."

Directors General Meet in Cairo To Discuss Tabah

TA041308 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] The Israeli and Egyptian teams of directors general met this morning in the northern Cairo suburb of Heliopolis for 3 hours on the matter of arbitration over Tabah. Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche told correspondents that the talk was very much to the point, but there are still disputes which need to be settled.

Knesset Defeats Proposal To Annex Territories

TA051005 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] The Knesset has rejected Knesset Member [MK] Ge'ula Kohen's proposal to annex the territories by a large majority. Our correspondent Tzvi Yisra'eli reports that four members of the coalition — Me'ir Kohen-Avidov, Beni Shalita, Hayim Druckman, and Ya'aqov Yosef — supported the motion.

Prior to the debate there were sharp exchanges between the prime minister and MK Kohen.

Sharon Warns Against Syrian, Iraqi Threats

TA041155 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 4 Mar 86 p 1, 9

[Report by Avi Bettelheim]

[Excerpts] "The remarks made by Syrian President Al-Asad last week about Syria freeing the Golan Heights should be taken very seriously. In fact, I recommend that all remarks made by the Arabs be taken seriously. I have never disregarded them. In retrospect, they also did all that they said they would do. They did not always stick to a timetable or achieve their objectives, but they tried. Al-Asad is not an impulsive leader. He is not one to talk much, but when he does say something, his remarks should be taken seriously." This was said yesterday by Industry and Trade Minister Ari'el Sharon to *MA'ARIV*.

Sharon regards Iraq as the gravest danger Israel is facing today. "Iraq is proving its ability to persevere in a war that is costing it a great deal. We have not forgotten the harsh attacks against us when we destroyed the nuclear reactor in Iraq. Today Iraq uses chemical weapons, and the world is silent. If we had not destroyed the reactor, they would have nuclear weapons today. From Iraq's viewpoint, moving several divisions in Israel's direction is only a logistic decision. From our point of view, eliminating the Iraqi danger means going to war. The problem is that today we are much weaker than we were in 1982. In my opinion, we would not be able to make decisions within a reasonable amount of time."

W. Bank Sources Say Husayn To Change Syria Policy

TA050830 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 5 Mar 86 p 1

[Report by Pinhas 'Inbari]

[Text] People who have just returned from Amman are saying that King Husayn was surprised by Zafir al-Masri's murder and that he intends to change his policy toward Syria.

These sources say the Jordanian king held a difficult talk with Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, the architect of the rapprochement with Syria. Husayn felt betrayed by Syria because he had hoped that Syria would support his new policy of severance from 'Arafat and enlisting the support of the territories, but instead Syria's envoys murdered one of his most senior supporters, a move that undermined his policy in the territories and brought the inhabitants of the territories together under the PLO flag.

According to the reports, King Husayn sees no point in carrying on with the rapprochement with syria because such a policy will put him in a position of having to cope with two fronts: 'Arafat's supporters on the one hand, and the "gunmen" of the pro-Syrian left on the other.

Even before the murder, the West Bank sources report, the king was disappointed by the level of support his speech won in the territories and the great difficulty involved in bringing supportive West Bank delegations to his palace.

Lien Placed Against E. Jerusalem Electric Company

TA042022 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] The Jerusalem office responsible for executing liens today implemented a court order, issued at the request of the Israeli Electricty Company, and placed a lien on the East Jerusalem Electric Corporation's bank and other assets such as plots of land, buildings, the central computer, and vehicles.

Our correspondent Elihu Ben-On reports that according to the law, the Israeli Electricity Company now has the right to offer the assets up for bids and to cover the East Jerusalem Company's debts of 16 million shekels with the money gained through the sales. Our correspondent adds that for the past 18 months the Israeli Electricity Company has been forced to collect its dues by appealing to the court for every monthly bill.

The court also instructed approximately 200 large consumers of the Arab company, including hotels in the eastern part of the city, industrial plants, and IDF camps to pay their electricity bills directly to the executing office and to the Israeli Electricity Company. The court emphasized that this is only the first step in the process of appealing to the office that executes liens, after which the Israeli company will have the right to request that receivers, appointed from outside the company ranks, conduct the ailing corporation's affairs and repay the debts to the collectors.

The chairman of the East Jerusalem Electric Corporation's board of executives, Anwar Nusaybah, has said that the threats to the company are nothing new. He said that the corporation had expressed its position and there is no room for action against it because it is in the habit of repaying its debts as soon as it receives money.

Speaking to our correspondent Arye Gus, Mr Nusaybah said that he had instructed the corporation's attorneys to appeal to the court tomorrow morning to repeal the lien order.

Representatives of the workers committee came to the corporation's offices this evening. Committee Chairman 'Abd Abu Ziyyab told our correspondent that the employees will wait in the corporation offices to see what happens.

E. Jerusalem Arab Press On Al-Masri Assassination

TA041929 [Editorial report] The Arab-language East Jerusalem Newspapers *AL-QUDS*, *AL-FAJR*, *Al-SH'AB*, and *AL-MITHAQ* in their 3 March 1986 editions carry banner headlines and front-page reports on the previous day's assassination of Nabulus mayor Zafir al-Masri. With the exception of *AL-MITHAQ*, the dailies also carry editorials strongly condemning the assassination and praising Al-Masri as a true Palestinian.

In its editorial on pages 1 and 10 titled "The Great Wound," *AL-QUDS* writes that Al-Masri carried an enormous burden and endured much agony in his "bold decision" to take over the municipality under these difficult and complex circumstances. "Yesterday political terrorism came knocking on our doors in the occupied territories as if we were in need of further hardships and calamity." The paper asks: "Have all the problems confronting us been solved and is no problem left other than the assassination of Zafir al-Masri?" The editorial concludes: "We are in need of far-sightedness and the shouldering of responsibility. the occupation wound is great and we must not act to enlarge it."

AL-FAJR's editorial on pages 1 and 6 titled "Down With the Plot" begins with the question: "What do Al-Masri's killers seek?" Zafir was a successful Palestinian economic figure and a citizen who saw a way by which he could serve his people and city, and he adopted this path, "Did you kill him for this?" The paper adds that it is not surprising or amazing that Al-Masri's assassination occurred at a time when the PLO has been subjected to a fierce campaign aimed at raising doubt about its leadership and its ability to shoulder the responsibility in leading our people at this fateful stage in our history. The paper calls on all Palestinians to focus their attention on the dimensions of the plot aimed at dividing their ranks, and "to adhere to their national unity and to dash all hopes of those who are trying to set an ambush for us and our cause."

In its editorial on pages 1 and 7 titled "Let Us Affirm the Unity of Our Rank," *AL-SH'AB* writes: "At a time when the plots aimed at liquidating the Palestinian people's cause and the PLO are escalating, this crime of Zafir al-Masri's assassination was committed; a crime that has been condemned and denounced."

The paper adds that this act is contrary to the Palestinian people's revolutionary traditions, and "definitely does not serve our people and their cause. Rather, the forces hostile to our people, their hopes and their dreams are the sole beneficiaries of this crime which constitutes also a severe blow to the efforts for the establishment of broad unity to confront the perils that have greatly increased since King Husayn's new declaration of war against the PLO."

During these critical moments the masses in the occupied territories should prove their unity and exert all their efforts to prevent further schisms in the ranks of our people.

Al-Masri Proposal on Free Trade Zone Under Study

TA041727 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Shortly before his death, Nabulus Mayor Zafir al-Masri raised the idea of setting up a free trade zone in the territories. He presented his plan to the coordinator of activities in the territories, Shmu'el Goren. Our correspondent Arye Gus points out that the Defense Ministry has even started to look into the matter.

IDF Soldiers Wound Nabulus Youth; Curfew Remains

TA041127 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] In Nabulus this morning, a young Arab sustained leg wounds from soldiers' gunshots. Security sources have told our correspondent Arye Gus that the young man was wounded while trying to run away from the soldiers who were trying to detain him. The incident occurred when a group of youths threw stones at an IDF patrol. The soldiers in the patrol called to the youths to stop and when they ran away, the soldiers fired at their legs. One of the youths was wounded by the shots and he has been taken to the Rafidiyah Hospital for treatment.

Our correspondent reports that the curfew continues in Nabulus, in the region where Mayor Zafir al-Masri was murdered the day before yesterday. The curfew in the Balatah refugee camp is also still in force.

Molotov Cocktail Incident in Samaria Evokes Curfew

TA041920 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] A Molotov cocktail was hurled at an Egged Bus Corporation towing bus this evening on the outskirts of the town of 'Anabta in Samaria. No one was hurt and no damage was caused. The security forces have imposed a curfew on the town. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that the curfew on the Balatah refugee camp was lifted for 2 hours this evening to permit the inhabitants to buy food. The curfew was imposed yesterday following the demonstration during which a local inhabitant was shot and killed by an IDF unit.

Booby-Trapped Car Explodes in Sidon; 1 Killed

TA050946 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0940 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] A booby-trapped car exploded in Sidon but only the driver was killed. A passenger in the car was injuried. Security sources have said that the car, a Renault, contained some 60 kg of explosives.

Further on OAU Council of Ministers Meeting

Ibrahimi Addresses Meeting

LD040956 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Excerpt] In Addis Ababa the 43rd session of the OAU Council of Ministers is drawing to an end. Particular attention has been paid by the African foreign ministers to matters concerning the abrogation of the Clark Amendment. They also discussed the United States' attitude in southern Africa.

In the Ethiopian capital the Algerian delegation, led by Dr Taleb Ibrahimi, very firmly condemned all forms of complicity between certain Western countries and the racist regime. He said the conditions in which the leader of UNITA was welcomed recently by the United States are a challenge to the whole of Africa, and noted the refusal of the leaders of the PLO and SWAPO to participate in the festivities to mark the 40th anniversary of the United Nations Organization.

Diouf Arrives, Meets Officials

AB041138 Dakar PANA in English 1118 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Addis Ababa 4 March (PANA) — Current OAU chairman, President Abdou Diouf of Senegal, this morning met the foreign ministers of Chad, Mauritius, Algeria and Egypt for discussions covering wide-ranging African issues.

Mauritius is the current chairman of the OAU Council of Ministers which has been meeting in the Ethiopian capital since 25 Feb., and which will wind up its deliberations tonight.

Mr Diouf will be briefed today by Mr Ide Oumarou, secretary general of the OAU, and Prof Adebayo Adedeji, executive secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, on the progress being made in the preparation of documents for the special session of the United Nations General Assembly on the critical economic situation in Africa, which is to take place towards the end of May.

Mr Diouf arrived in Addis Ababa last night to preside over the OAU Bureau meeting which will discuss the preparations and also the Chad crisis.

The current president of the United Nations General Assembly Mr Edgar Pissani, is in Addis Ababa to coordinate the preparations and will hold talks with Mr Diouf today. Also in Addis Ababa to brief Mr Diouf on these and other matters is Ambassador Joseph Reed, United States permanent representative to the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

The OAU Secretary General this morning received the U.S. charge d'affaires to Ethiopia, Mr O'Neill, but the subjects discussed were not revealed.

There has been severe criticism of the Reagan administration's policy towards Africa. During the council deliberations several delegations condemned the U.S. for its support to the complementary army of South Africa, namely the UNITA bandits which attack the legitimate government in Angola from bases in South Africa and Namibia. The draft resolutions being prepared reflect the sentiments of the council and contain scathing attacks on the Reagan administration.

More heads of state, including those of Congo and Liberia and Sudan are scheduled to arrive for the Bureau meeting today. The Bureau is composed of Benin, Botswana, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Liberia, Malawi, Saharan Democratic Arab Republic (SDAR), Senegal and Sudan.

All members of the Bureau will be attending the meeting which opens tomorrow.

Steering Group's Report Adopted

AB041719 Dakar PANA in English 1625 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Addis Ababa, 4 March, (PANA) — The Council of Ministers of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) meeting in plenary [as received] today adopted the report of the OAU permanent steering committee which met at ministerial level on Monday under the chairmanship of Senegal.

The report which was drawn up by the secretariats of the OAU and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) elaborates on Africa's programme for economic recovery 1986-90 and the country profile of member-states which was drawn up by a joint OAU-ECA mission to several African countries

The adoption of the report completes one of the most important items on the agenda of the council which also endorsed the reports and resolutions of its two committees, leaving behind the approval of the major resolutions on political issues deliberated in the plenary. [as received]

The council appealed for continued provision of the necessary resources to the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) and other humanitarian organisations in order to enable them to adequately meet the needs of the refugees and returnees as regards emergency relief as well as rehabilitation assistance.

The council drew attention of the international community to the urgent need to continue to provide funds for the implementation of the projects submitted to the second international conference on assistance to refugees in Africa.

In a resolution on the utilisation of the maritime resources of Africa's exclusive zone, the council decided that further expert studies were necessary on the subject and the matter will be taken up by the next ministerial council session. Meanwhile, all member-states have been urged to ratify the third UN convention on the law of the sea so as to speed up its entry into force.

The council granted the African Bureau for Educational Sciences the status of an OAU specialised agency and approved observer status to the African Jurists Association and the Africa Cooperative Savings and Credit Association.

On the question of the African Rehabilitation Institute, the council requested the OAU secretary general in consultation with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) director general and the host governments of Congo, Egypt and Zimbabwe to initiate action aimed at finalising the modalities for launching the institutes coordinating unit at Harare.

It requested the United Nations development programme to respond to OAU's request for financial assistance for the establishment of the institute and appealed to OAU member-states to make voluntary contributions to the institute's fund.

The council's resolution on the revision of the African convention on the conservation of nature and natural resources said in its preamble that it was conscious of the importance of the African natural resources as an irreplaceable part of the African heritage and expressed concern over the danger of extinction which threatens some of these irreplaceable resources.

It requested the secretary general to revise the text of the convention in the light of the amendments submitted by member-states.

Regarding the progress [words indistinct] the establishment of the (?Afro-Arab) cultural institute, the council stressed the need for the institute's policies and programmes to take into account the principles and objectivity [word indistinct] Afro-Arab cooperation.

The executive council of the institute will convene to select the headquarters of the institute and appoint a director.

Ministerial Meeting Concludes

EA042053 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1900 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] The OAU 43rd regular ministerial meeting concluded its deliberations today by adopting various decisions and draft resolutions. The meeting has adopted the document presented by the 15-member country OAU permanent drafting committee, the reports on education, political, scientific and social affairs presented by teams of working committees and draft resolutions.

The meeting has included in its document that it has accepted the proposals presented by an OAU temporary committee set up to discuss the steps to be taken on ways and means of reuniting Mayotte island, which is under French administration, with the Islamic Republic of Comoros. In its deliberations, the meeting has agreed that the American Educational and Scientific Bureau, African Lawyers Association and African Credit and Savings Cooperatives should attend the regular session as obsevers after a team of the two working committees assessed their applications.

The meeting opposed the provocative and arrogant military exercise near Libyan waters, aimed at violating the sovereignty of the People's Socialist Libyan Jamahiriyah and issued a statement affirming its solidarity with Libya.

The meeting appreciated the support given by the international community in support of the efforts to alleviate the refugee problems in the continent and called upon the international community to give assistance to the implementation of plans proposed at the second international congress for solving the problems of African refugees.

U.S. 'Blasted' Over Aid to UNITA

HK051034 Hong Kong AFP in English 0214 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] Addis Ababa, March 4 (AFP) — Foreign Ministers of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) wound up a week-long session here late Tuesday after passing resolutions that sidestepped the Chad conflict but blasted the United States for its declared support for Angolan rebels.

The OAU Council of Ministers apparently ignored Tuesday's speech by South African President Pieter Botha in which he said Pretoria could start implementing the U.N. plan for Namibian independence by next August 1.

In a resolution and an accompanying declaration, the Council "vigorously" condemned the U.S. Government for recently welcoming "the head of South Africa's complementary army" a reference to Jonas Savimbi, the head of the UNITA Angolan rebel movement, whom it described as a "traitor".

U.S. material support extended to him constituted "a glaring interference" in Angola's internal affairs and a serious threat to world peace and security, the resolution said.

The declaration on Washington's decision to give overt military aid to UNITA was even stronger, expressing the "gravest concern" that the formula used by U.S. President Ronald Reagan in the case of Angola could also be carried out "tomorrow against any other legitimate African government".

The OAU's February session is normally devoted to budgetary and administrative issues, though it is at times inevitably drawn into debating current political crises. However, the council sidetracked the recent conflict between the Libyan-backed Provisional Government of National Union (GUNT) and the French-backed Ndjamena Government of President Hissene Habre.

Instead, it stuck to recommendations at the outset by OAU Secretary-General Ide Oumarou that the respective positions of the belligerents be stated, but not debated. Nevertheless, this subject could come up at a meeting of the OAU bureau opening here Wednesday to be presided over by the current OAU chairman, Senegalese President Abdou Diouf.

President Botha's Namibian independence proposal appears not [to) have been debated in the absence of specific details. For that reason, the council again rejected the linkage by Washington and Pretoria of the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola as a condition for Namibian independence.

However, in a resolution on South Africa, the ministers appealed to the peoples of the United States, Britain and West Germany to exert "maximum pressure" on their governments to impose comprehensive mandatory sanctions against Pretoria.

By so doing, the ministers abandoned an earlier proposal that OAU member-states boycott trade with London and Bonn unless these two countries applied sanctions against Pretoria.

In an apparent, last-minute bid to placate Libya, a member state, the council also "energetically" condemned Washington for having imposed an economic boycott against Tripoli and for "acts of intimidation" meant to punish alleged Libyan support for international terrorism.

On an issue of the gravest concern to the OAU — the forthcoming special U.N. General Assembly session on the critical economic situation in Africa — the council appealed to the international community to "contribute effectively" to the implementation of the continent's economic recovery programme.

The ministers had earlier in the day approved a basic document on this programme, prepared by a joint committee of the OAU and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), that dealt with the continent's development priorities over the next five years.

This theme is expected to feature again in deliberations Wednesday of the OAU bureau.

The council approved a budget of 25.3 million dollars for the OAU secretariat, giving a mandate to Secretary-General Oumarou at the same time to continue his "effective financial management measures."

More on Condemnation of U.S.

AB051157 Dakar PANA in English 1026 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] Addis Ababa, 5 March (PANA) — The OAU Council of Ministers yesterday vehemently and unreservedly condemned the decision of the Reagan administration to arm UNITA counterrevolutionaries and thereby wage by proxy a war on a member-state of the OAU.

The council adopted a declaration on the United States' decision to render overt military assistance to UNITA which has been termed by the council as complementary of the South African Army.

Since Angolan independence in 1975, that country has had to defend its hard won freedom from repeated acts of aggression by the racist Pretoria regime, covertly aided and abetted by successive United States governments. Thus the decision of the Reagan administration to render overt military, material, financial and other forms of assistance to UNITA fighting the legitimate government of Angola, a member-state of the OAU, is of direct, immediate, and grave concern to the entire Continent of Africa.

On several occasions the Armed Forces of South Africa have directly invaded Angola with the aim of not only toppling the government and installing UNITA but also of delaying the independence of Namibia. Only recently, Angola launched a massive and effective offensive to rid Angola of the UNITA menace. The offensive provoked an expected South African invasion of Angola to rescue its UNITA allies from certain annihilation.

The apartheid regime is now fighting for its survival in the face of the popular mass uprising within South Africa itself. It is frantically trying to liquidate the armed liberation struggle of the Namibian people under the leadership of SWAPO, and is directly as well as indirectly involved in costly acts of destabilization against neighboring independent states in the sub-region.

South Africa, which is now facing its worst economic crisis since the Second World War, has overstretched its resources and is no longer capable of effectively discharging its role of defending imperialist interests in the sub-region by suppressing the liberation struggle in South Africa and Namibia.

In the light of this prevailing critical situation being faced by the racists, the Reagan administration has decided to openly ally itself with the Pretoria regime by assuming the position of arch-purveyor of the hardware of death and destruction to the UNITA bandits. Faced with inevitable defeat the bandit Jonas Savimbi went on his infamous trip to the USA and was accorded red-carpet treatment by the Reagan administration.

The decision of the Reagan administration to openly arm UNITA and fight shoulder to shoulder with South Africa against the legitimate Government of Angola, irrefutably places the U.S. on the side of South Africa against Angola. This decision also amounts to declaration of a proxy war against Angola.

The OAU Council of Ministers notes with the gravest concern that what the Reagan administration has decided to implement today with respect to Angola, it can also carry out tomorrow against any other legitimate African government.

The OAU Council of Ministers expresses its support for Angola in their just struggle against joint U.S./South African aggression. It calls upon all the peace-loving and progressive forces the world over to render support.

The chairman of the Council of Ministers, together with the Bureau and the secretary-general, have an OAU mandate to undertake a mission to the United States to convey to the Congressional Black Caucus, the Free South Africa Movement and the other friends of Africa in the United States' Congress the OAU's indignation at Reagan's action and fears of the dangers of internationalising the conflict.

LIBYA

Continuing Reportage on General People's Congress

Al-Qadhdhafi Addresses Congress

LD021451 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1140 GMT 2 Mar 86

[Speech by Libyan Leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi at the General People's Congress at Banghazi's Qaryunis University — live]

[Text][Passage indistinct] In Banghazi or even Sabha, it is better to convene in any other town or village, if you wish to hold your meeting there. However, in holding your meetings in Banghazi, Tripoli, or Sabha, these reactionary and monarchist cities, (?it is better to avoid them). [chants]

Today is a historic and great day. It is the day when the state of the Jamahiriyah was proclaimed on 2 March 1977. This day might not be fully appreciated by us, who have witnessed the establishment of the Jamahir, and even the contemporary world might not be able to appreciate it, as it is surely trying to do so now, because it is an official world. Even the so-called United Nations is, in fact, not a United Nations, but a body of governmental delegations meeting at that headquarters. People's delegations are, however, those which meet on Libyan soil and, therefore, their resolutions fully contravene most of the governmental delegations, that is, people's resolutions taken on the Libyan soil are fully different from their delegates' resolutions at the United Nations. Such a UN delegate was representing a government, but those who took part in the International People's Congresses in Libya represent the Jamahir and peoples. I mean that the living world is an official world, which does not recognize, but fights, the Jamahiriyah. History, however, will say that this day is a great day. Despite the fact that it has been created by a small people who live in a small, poor, and backward country, it is, however, one of the turning points in the history of humanity: the establishment of the state of the Jamahir and the establishment of the Jamahiriyah in this context, the emergence of the people's conferences and people's committees — the establishment of the people's authority. This historic and innovative act has no comparison. It is regrettable that it is not understood at present, but it will be, however, one of the main events in the history of humanity in the future.

It has been said that when a French philosopher called Rousseau died, only two of his friends walked in his funeral procession. After the passage of scores of years and more, however millions have come to observe his death. a matter which confirms that his thoughts were great thoughts to humanity.

Today, as we meet and speak here, is a great historic day, the day of the rise of the Jamahiriyah. We, in the midst of this event and in the midst of celebrating it, can only see we are in the midst of this great event. However, future generations will see it as a historical turning point and a new page being written down by man in his history toward final salvation. Millions are still struggling everywhere in the world to reach power and are paying the price with their lives and bodies and with their possessions to get rid of a ruling party, to get rid of a dominating government and to get rid of the ruler, whether from an oligarchy or a tribe. Now all instruments of rule are facing fierce resistance from the popular masses everywhere. This undoubtedly indicates that the Libyan people are the vanguard of the whole world and the symbol and example to be followed in all parts of the world. Libya is setting an example for the state of Jamahir, the state of salvation. This is what this day means. It means that in fact, Libya through revolution became independent for the first time as part of the Arab homeland. After the (?demise) of the great Islamic Arab state, Libya's independence was for the first time linked to the rise of the Jamahiriyah. We in fact we do not differentiate a great deal between the two things.

I emphasize that in 1969 this part of the Arab homeland first gained its independence. In 1969 when you entered from the Chadian borders you enter the Malta Information [flight control] Zone. The Libyan map used to have written on it the term: Malta Information Zone when you entered it from Chad, Sudan, or Niger. As soon as you crossed the borders of the those countries, you came within the Malta Information Zone. It was written on the Libyan map, impertinently by those who used to colonize this country in the name of independence; you are now within the Malta Information Zone. The boundaries of the Libyan sovereignty were unknown because there was no sovereignty to start with, because until 1969 U.S. forces and British forces — all foreign forces — were dominant.

The question of independence in this country is then raised simultaneously with its transformation into the Jamahiriyah which placed authority in the hands of the masses. Then the problem of the Gulf of Sidra arose -- as if these are new things on the international scene. In fact they are all connected to the fact that a part of the Arab homeland has been liberated and consequently, the limits of this sovereignty have become clear.

Sovereignty does not mean the downfall of the foreign usurper only to be replaced by a local oppressor. There is no difference between the bullets of the British and the bullets of the forces which hit the citizens in the streets of Cairo. There is no difference whatsoever between the British governor, Faruq and the current ruler of Egypt, or the one assassinated earlier.

This day reveals the truth and exposes the falsehood being carried out on our borders in the Arab countries and in the entire world. Even the Philippines, which has paid the price and where the popular masses brought down Marcos' regime, has replaced the regime with a female Marcos. In fact there is no different between this president and that -- all of them are puppets of the United States of America. These masses will someday regret they exchanged a president with another president and will continue in this vicious circle until the masses awaken to what is happening, and to what the Libyan world example is offering, and see that salvation is not through the replacement of one ruler by another or a government by another, or a class by a class. Salvation comes through the people in the people's congresses and committees in place of any instrument of rule, no matter what it was. I stress to you today that the masses who support the new president of the Philippines in the future will demonstrate against her, because she is an instrument of power and the difference between her and the president deposed by the masses will vanish. This is being repeated everywhere in the world around us.

I want to underline that the importance of 2d of March, the day of the rise of Jamahiriyah, does not mean independence and the consolidation of a national instrument of power handling the citizens, their properties and their sovereignty the way the colonialists handled or [words indistinct], but liberation and freedom means that the people own these potentials. What this day means and what the people's authority means is this concept. However, I would like to stress today that it is important to resist any intervention [tadakhul] in popular will. [applause]

What (?concerns) us is that there should be no request for intervention in the popular will from any individual or any group, for any reason. I saw (?banners) in the streets on this occasion saying that the best and most useful assistance of the masses is for me to help them. When one is learning how to walk, you ought not to help him so that he does not rely on your muscles; let him strengthen his own muscles, so that if he walks, he will be walking by himself. He who wants to intervene to assist the masses hinders the development of their will. In fact, the best assistance for the masses is not to assist them, because this assistance would be at the cost of strengthening their will. Facing us could be intervention outside the masses. When I say outside the masses, I mean even one of the masses; outside is not something from outside the country -- an outside action like colonialism, an outside aggression. I am speaking about intervention in the people's authority, whether it comes without a request or if the popular masses ask for it. These two factors could constitute an extreme danger to the popular will and to popular authority. The masses and their revolutionary forces should be prepared to resist these two forbidden things. The masses must not request the assistance of anyone, however critical the problems facing them become, because this request would show that the masses are weak and subsequently they would lose confidence in themselves. They would always need a savior. This savior would be the dictator who saves the masses and who solves their problems. And he who offers them something, sets a price; the price would be domination and dictatorship. Thus, those who carried out revolutions and independence battles for the sake of their peoples, turned into tyrants when they came into power.

This is the forbidden thing which was avoided by the forces which carried out the Al-Fatih Revolution, namely, they did not exercise authority, so that through the passage of time the revolution would turn into a convincing force for the masses. Subsequently, the historic qualitative jump took place and salvation took place, namely, that those who exercise authority are the people. The masses ought not -- moreover, it is forbidden for the masses --to request assistance from anyone. They also must resist any intervention from anyone. Today I want to stress that the great and brilliant victory of popular freedom and democracy over the land of Libya is a gain for which lives in the countries of the world are being paid.

Despite the fact that it has appeared easy to the majority, it was still difficult for those who created it. It was not easy for the Free Unionist officers together with their soldiers who carried out the revolution [chants] to carry out such an act. It was a dangerous and very hard voyage. It was a voyage of death for them. We lived through some long and difficult years; we lived through them under stress and tension and, at the time, we were ready to pay with our lives for such an act, and we still feel the same even now. I must say, with some regret, that the vast popular masses have found themselves living through the era of emancipation, thanks to the revolution and to the deliberate revolutionary urge, without paying any price for that. [Words indistinct] the evidence for that, you do easily seek the help of the leader and seek the help of someone who can solve a problem arising from your agency. If you differ with each other for a quarter of an hour, you hastily seek help. This is a dangerous and incorrect course. On the contrary, the best way is not to seek help in such situations. The people must not have a tutor, guardian or president, otherwise we will fall into the forbidden anew. [as heard] The Jamahir must not belittle their capabilities for solving the problems. I am certain that at the General People's Congress, at the people's conferences and the people's committees, there are people who have brains and extraordinary forces and have more potential than anybody else who has been elected. A shepherd must have solutions, but he does not know anybody. The establishment of the people's authority means that such a person ought to be known and this shepherd must have a say and thus influence the destiny of the society. This will (?lead) to having the shepherd as a member in the Basic People's Conference where he can stand up during the proceedings of the conference and assert that he has a solution for this or that problem. This person might be a genius like so many other ordinary people whom we must bring all together. I am sure that in this way, we will guarantee the surmounting of all problems — be they technical, military, economical, political, internal, or external — but one person might fail, like the government and the class, because there are so many negative influences against these instruments.

Only the people have do not have any negative influences acting against them in their practice of their lives. As regards this negative aspect which I have mentioned, namely, that while we have been intentionally involved in and made a conscious commitment to the undertaking of these serious tasks, we suddenly found ourselves free. Although we paid a price, in truth our fathers and forefathers paid it. However, we who are here at present do not feel it to be great. We remember them yet we do not feel the gravity of the price they paid because we did not take part in the battles of (Al-Haniyah), (Al-Kirbadhiyah) and Al-Jabal Al-Akhdhar. We did not take part in those battles, hence we are unaware of the gravity and the value of the price of freedom. We were not participating in the movement of the Free Unionist Officers and consequently, were unaware of the suffering endured during the beginning of the revoluton and during the dangerous confrontation with the foreign bases and the dictatorial authority backed by the strongest power on the face of earth.

Therefore, there is in fact a negative influence which acts against freedom on the Libyan soil and the revolutionary forces should eliminate this negative influence through only one thing: namely, through continuous incitement in order to strengthen the popular will, by refraining from asking for any assistance and to resist anyone interfering in the popular will. There is nothing in the Jamahiriyah except the people's congresses and the people's committees. If you fail, the people's congresses and the people's committees will fail, and if you succeed, the people's congresses and the people's committees will succeed. There is nobody to shoulder the responsibility except the people's congresses and the people's committees on Libyan land. Even from a legal, constitutional, or administrative point of view, you cannot question or put on trial anyone over any problem you face, because no one has authority except the people's congresses and the people's committees. There should be no dependence on any party outside the people's congresses and the people's committees. There is not a single person, in fact, who is responsible even within the people's congresses and the people's committees. There are, however, popular mass establishments: a whole people's congress, a people's congress secretariat, a whole people's committee. Consequently, if a people's committee allows its secretary to discharge its affairs by himself, it must understand that it will have to pay the price for such behavior, because the actions of the secretary of the people's committee on his own are not recognizable. The secretary of the people's committee is the administrative organizer of the committee only. His duty is to supervise and not to discharge affairs. If, at the instigation of the revolutionary forces of the popular masses a people's committee is put on trial, then the people's committee will be the one to be tried and not its secretary, because any behavior, constitutionally and democratically in the Jamahiri system, is the behavior of the people's committee. If it gives a free rein to its secretary to act on its behalf, this means nothing. It does not mean it is not responsible. The actions of the secretary will be considered by us, the popular masses and the revolutionary forces, to be the actions of the whole of the people's committee and it will be liable to questioning or trial.

We undertook the march, the escalation of these marches in order to achieve the situation in which we now are: people's committees and people's congresses. There would be absolutely no legitimacy in a group of people undertaking a march on any place in order to topple a committee, a secretary, or a secretariat. This is a method that we had created ourselves. We have incited the masses to march so that the result of the march would be the setting up of people's congresses and people's committees. We want to attain this situation, and we, the revolutionary forces, have pledged to incite the masses to undertake marches so that they can rid themselves of fear; so that they can storm offices, the offices of the civil servants they used to fear; so that they can sense that no ruler, administrator, or anyone can stand in their way.

We have been through a period during which for years we have been inciting marches, until the masses took the seats of power and democracy was established. The people should always be in these seats. The struggle was over our taking these seats, and all the marches were for us to attain these seats. Now we the people have taken the seats, in the people's congresses and people's committees. Therefore, there is no reason for a march now, because this would contradict the exercising of people's power in its mature and definitive form.

Now any people's congress can convene an emergency or an ordinary session, and decide to topple anyone it wants, or to change anything it wants, without leaving the seat; anyone leaving the seat to act or to march would harm the people's power. You do not need to raise your voice, or even to stand up. You just say a word and you change the secretary of the congress, change the secretary of the committee, change the committee, change a decision, create a law, declare war, or decide peace while you are sitting in the seat because you are the master, you are the king, you are the president. You are the decision-maker while you sit in the seat.

If a people's congress wants to change a people's committee or bring it to account, or change its secretary, or one of its members, let it take the seats and not (?be afraid). Each time, particularly on the anniversary of the Jamahiriyah and the emergence of people's power, we must stress, act or say what is likely to stress this great achievement. On all (?occasions) we must sit — in addition to the celebrations, chanting, dancing, etc., which represent joy and an expression of happiness and emancipation — we must sit in order to increase our understanding of this great achievement, and to deepen the roots of the people's power, in order to grasp the meaning of Jamahiriyah, and also to maintain our reputation throughout the world.

Libya offers a universal model for all the Arab peoples. This is a historic achievement that is greater than the achievement realized at a time of [name indistinct] in Athens. It is an achievement that has given substance, in practice, to all the ideas and dreams of thinkers and scholars in the world who were looking for the virtuous city, for the paradise lost, for paradise on earth, the creation of the city of Plato and the (?Al-Farabi) city. Everything, even the attempts by communists and anarchists, and the great achievements in history were looking for what can now be found on Libyan territory. [applause]

One of the Jamahiriyah's meanings is that the Jamahir should undertake all responsibilities and duties and thereby shoulder all the consequences. We must never put a committee into authority and at the same time forget that our main task is to work, fight and train as soon as we leave the hall. These are contradictions which harm democracy and freedom. You only deserve to sit on a chair and be a sir if you are able to do your own work, to train and defend your family; then and only then do you deserve to sit like a master. But if you are unable to defend yourself and unable to work creatively, yet mislead yourself into believing that you are the master of the chair, this is deception. The people who want to shoulder the responsibility of freedom must pay the price. Any person who wants to be free must pay the price for it.

If anyone of us had not taken part in the battles for freedom against the Italians or had not participated in Al-Fatih Revolution, he still has the opportunity to do so, by working, producing, training, offering to defend and, by consolidating the security of the Jamahiriayh by defending it and increasing its production. In this way he can compensate for not having participated in the jihad battles or in the revolution.

This is now the greatest task [words indistinct] jihad's battles in order to liberate ourselves, liberating ourselves in order to control our country's potential, to be able to decide whatever we want and to build what we want. Now the stage of decision and building has been reached. The revolution is a means to free ourselves, as with freedom we can do whatever we want. Now the time to do what we want has arrived. Do whatever you want. You want to be a master? Then you must be armed, productive and able to make decisions because you hold in your hands all the means: authority, wealth and weapons. [Words indistinct] as if there is somebody who would like to defend you (?and your future). (?Everything you own should be for the battle). If we have separated boys and girls in battle, education and work, we were only talking about (?material and mechanical) separation. I do not believe that girls should be in one amphitheater and boys in another. I believe they should be in the same amphitheater. Women should not be in one camp and men in another; women should not be in one factory and men in another. This is wrong -- if one is in a factory and one is not, one is in an amphitheater and one is outside, one is in the battle and the other is not. If someone says there should be a military academy for girls or even a whole military formation for women, I consider this idea to be progressive and to be discussed from a formality point of view. He who says no to girls joining the military academy, this is a reactionary idea; women should not be trained, this is also a reactionary idea.

There are no men and women in the state of Jamhir; there are, however, males and females, and we have plenty of them — those whom God created as male and those whom he created as female. This should not be a concern of ours. Man can eat, walk, hear, think, has freedom, aspirations and human characteristics. This is enough. We should not, however, distinguish between people as male and female, with one having rights and not the other; one able to enter the battle and not the other; this is wrong and cannot be stated, Formal matters that make someone better than another are acceptable, but essential things, like joining a battle, should be guaranteed to everybody, as all in the Jamahir are owners of this land. Therefore, we should all be able to enter faculties, universities, professions, agriculture and industry; make some factories for men and some for women in the traditional way. [Words indistinct] because we are all inside the factory. Women makes clothes inside the house, and man inside the factory. This is acceptable, as long as they are both working. The home, the factory or the office — all mean nothing. What is important is that you perform your duties.

A woman receives training in the use of arms, however sophisticated. For her to receive training inside the home is, to me, as important as her receiving training in the camps; it makes no difference. In fact, the kitchen is like a laboratory or a factory. There is no difference between the kitchen and the laboratory or workshop at the pharmaceutical college or the science college; both involve mixing, materials, and cooking. We must be sure of this; we must not waste a great deal of time at the expense of our future and freedom.

All of us should fight and all of us should work. We must not allow reactionary lines of thinking to return. Some of us begin to serve, wittingly or unwittingly, the interests of the forces hostile to our freedom, to our nation and to the future of our generations. We must not confuse between formalities and theories, between the mixing of men and women and the performance of tasks. The mixing process is one of freedom. What I am talking about is not a call for mixing, but for work. It does not matter if each sex wants to work alone; the important thing is that all must work. In the military academy, the training of women has been entrusted to women. Women have been enlisted for military service essentially to train other women, so that there would be no objection on the grounds that men have been entrusted with the task of training women, despite the fact that teachers in schools and universities consist of men and women, and women work alongside men in offices. The streets are full of men, too. Nobody objects to such mixing, even by the reactionaries. However, there are objections to the progressive thing to which we are not accustomed and which is seen as oppressive -- that we should all carry arms. I have repeatedly said that educated, armed, working, and strong women are much stronger and less likely to be taken advantage of than unarmed, weak and uneducated women. What matters in the end is good upbringing at home and good manners, and not the nature of the work.

We must listen to such words and repeat them at every opportunity, especially on such a great historic day, so that we affirm the Jamahiriyah and the authority of the people; so that there can be no doubt every year that we have actually become masters and that we deserve this supremacy.

One of the tasks entrusted to the General People's Congress is to prepare the agenda which is before you. You might have noticed that there was a crisis in regard to the agenda last night. You should have continued with work every day, and the day after and the day after [words indistinct]. There was only one incident of salvation: When I and my colleagues staged the revolution. That was a salvation operation. You did not ask us to stage it, nor did we consult you, nor did we seek your votes. [applause and chants]

The savior is like the fedayeen. The fedayeen acts once and dies. We are in need of a fedayeen to blow up this door with his body so that we may come out. This has been carried out. There is no need for others to come after him every time to blow up the door.

Who would stage the revolution? We could have died staging the revolution, so that the people may live. This is what constitutes a savior. There can be no other interpretation. Neither I nor my colleagues accept any longer any other role for ourselves. A savior is different from a ruler. The ruler has his rule and [words indistinct] in the elections. He goes to welcome your guests at the airports like any puppet. He rides in a Mercedes car purchased from an imperialist country and carries a false flag which flutters under the flag of the colonialist in full disgrace and shame, and riding before him are motorcycles which are also imported. These are disgraceful things to the true revolutionaries. [Words indistinct] to welcome you.

The savior, and others like him are different from the president who remains constant. The role of the former takes place only once and then ends. Our role happens once only. We have staged the revolution. We have undertaken the greatest operation, namely, the revolution. Before us, there were five U.S. bases; before us were the British forces entering Tobruk at Al-'Adim base without permission from the Libyans. The day the revolution began thousands of British troops could have landed in Tobruq, [words indistinct] as all maneuvers used to take place at sea and ashore without any permission. The U.S. controlled the land, sea and airspace in accordance with the treaty with the monarchy. It used to act freely in Libya.

We undertook this operation, a fedayeen operation, a heroic one, a dangerous, a historic operation. But then it was the first time, and you should not come and ask us to resolve this or that problem, to dig wells. [slogans chanted praising Al-Qadhdhafi] You must understand this; this is our duty. As far as we are concerned, if we wanted to stay as rulers we would have done so. However, we mounted a revolution founded on a Jamahiriyah philosophy, and we can never betray the revolution. For us, no matter how dangerous an operation it was, and no matter how we ran risks — for us, revolution means that the people become master, the masses become emancipated. It does not mean the masses rule through us, otherwise, we would be repeating the same mistake.

People used to applaud Idriss al-Sanusi, as the one to secure independence. After taking power he brought in foreign bases [words indistinct]. What independence? The United States was not present before independence; it came after independence. This is the ruler that you chose and deified; you sanctified him. Idriss al-Sanusi was sanctified.

The truth has now come out. Who shackeled Libya with foreign bases? It was Idriss al-Sanusi. His governments and his deputies, the deputies you elected, fought over them. Tribes used to fight each other because of a deputy. What then was the benefit to the tribe that fought another sister tribe? The one to benefit was the deputy who made money and smuggled it abroad, bringing foreigners here. That was the deputy representing you. Look at the result of representation. Did they liberate you from bases? It was they who brought in the bases; they were the ones to bring in colonialism and slavery again.

Were there, after independence, as many Italian troops as U.S. troops? No, not at all. The British occupied Libya after World War II and their forces were fewer than the U.S. troops that came under an agreement after independence. Look at this type of ruler, governments, deputies. No, we cannot betray the issue of the revolution. The revolution is against all these trends that lead to such dangerous situations to the future of freedom.

You want to force us into being rulers; no, no way. We brought the revolution despite everything. It was our duty. We assumed our responsibility because it was our business. If it had failed we would have died. If it succeeded our aspirations would have been fulfilled without anyone asking, without voting, without debates. We said that he who wanted to die with us could join in, and those who were prepared to die went along with us in the caravan of death. After this, you have nothing to do with us. Do not ask anything else from us; we are not responsible. If a disaster hits you, none of those who engaged in the revolution can be blamed; you will be the ones to blame.

The formation of a people's committee from the armed people is the extent [words indistinct]. This means that the popular understanding has reached a stage [words indistinct]. I was personally afraid to come near the formation of the people's committees of the armed people, but you took the risk and made the decision. Starting now, people's committees for the armed people will be formed. This should be underlined in red, because it is a very grave move. I wonder whether those who decided this understand its gravity, or have they decided [words indistinct].

Two. [numbering as heard] Nobody can now complain. The people's congresses decided that marginal jobs should be abolished. This is done. There should be minimum dependence on the employees of the administrative body. These are extremely important and grave resolutions. Any government, supreme planning council, president or anybody, whoever he may be, cannot issue such a resolution; I am sure of that. Look at all the governments and parliaments of the world and compare their resolutions with yours. However serious these governments may be in solving their problems, they will never adopt resolutions or (?follow) policies similar to this policy. Look, these resolutions were made without marching, hitting or banging, while the people are sitting on their chairs. You adopted the gravest resolutions while sitting on your chairs. This is the stage of the Jamahiriyah, the stage of maturity, of reaching to the end of the road. The people [words indistinct].

Simplification of the administrative procedures: This is also very grave. Simplification of the administrative procedures: This [words indistinct] dropping the number of papers, cards and dealings, and closing many windows at which the people used to stand in line at offices and departments. All this will be abolished when we simplify the administrative work. Possibly one paper will contain everything. Instead of bringing the so-and-so certificate and such-and-such certificate, and the so-and-so official stamp and such-and-such proof, and go to 100 officials in 100 streets, and walk 100 kms and waste 100 hours, we have simplified all this. From one place you take one paper which contains all the information. And we dispense with 100 officials; only one is needed. The change (?has commenced) correctly.

Only yesterday I received grave resolutions. I only gave you an example of the grave resolutions which you adopted, and I hope that you will not forget them, because yesterday there was a clear forgetfullness concerning what was decided during the past session. Did the period of the people's committee for one year not end during the past session? Yes. Yes, it ended since last year.

An opportunity was given for questioning the General People's Committee so that opinions would be expressed at this session. The first thing you should do is to ask the Secretariat of the General People's Committee for the result of the enquiry you endorsed at the last meeting. Where is the enquiry? Did you not form a committee of the secretaries of peoples's congresses of municipalities? They came to Tripoli and stayed a few days, and had discussions with the General Peoples's Committee. Where is the result? We can not begin to elevate this or that without examining the result. We should examine this closely because it is a recurring matter. It is a recurring matter; it is a kind of [words indistinct]. We incite popular masses to control people's committees. When you go out of here you must make your people's committee accountable and find out about the issues you asked about.

Previous years: There is accountability every year — what were the negative and positive things done by the secretaries, secretaries of the Secretariat and of the committee. They should be accountable. We must know whether a secretary is sincere and efficient, a squanderer, a spendthrift; whether he economises [words indistinct] let us review this every year. [Passage indistinct] Everyone has a file -- his visits, tasks performed, tours, expenses, treatment. This is not [words indistinct] situation; a secretary of a general people's committee has to be made accountable. From this month until the next meeting at the end of the year, he has to know that he will have to appear before the General People's Congress and have his file opened, like the day of judgement. [Passage indistinct] This does not mean that he should not stay in a hotel; the main thing is that it is stated that such a person has stayed in such a hotel during a particular year. However, the congress may object to this hotel and decide that it is not suitable for its secretary to sleep in this particular hotel [words indistinct].

A particular country's minister, during the same or another period, comes to this country and stays in a hotel. It does not cost his country much. If you send him to a particular country, he cannot go to another unless he can justify it to you by saying: I am going to this country on a mission and I thought of spending a holiday and seeing a friend in the other country. He shoulders his responsibility and you are free to permit it or not. When you travel you spend money. If you spend your own money, say so, but if you spend our money, then the people will make you accountable. [Words indistinct] this secretary has spent money in such and such a place and [words indistinct]. Sometimes he does not spend and you make him accountable [words indistinct]. Sometimes he does not spend, and you question him. Why have you not spent any money? [Passage indistinct] Sometimes he is made accountable because his spending was not appropriate. He will be made accountable. Not everyone is made accountable from this secretariat or this committee. That is why we have made him accountable for spending, laziness, inefficiency; and it is finished [words indistinct].

Even the Free Unionist officers who are still in the forces, still carry weapons; if they enter a battle with you and lose, I would not bring any of them to trial. It would not be their responsibility — it is yours, the people. We have told you that there will be a time when the people will carry arms. If we had said no, that we have engaged in the revolution and we alone carry arms and assume responsibility for defense, then yes, we would try them if they failed in a battle. But they, night and day, are asking you to come and undergo training; come and carry weapons.

So, that is it. We are just trainers. You are the ones who should fight for your own freedom. If you do not enlist for training or carry arms to score a victory in this battle who will you blame afterwards? Who will you bring to trial? You would try those who did not participate in the battle. I would not try the one who participated in the battle and died or was defeated or overwhelmed by a stronger and bigger force. I would put on trial the one who would not participate in the battle. He is responsible for defeat and loss.

Generally speaking with regard to the internal policy, you have made very serious decisions which you should not forget. This is because last time — 7 months ago — you made decisions and then forgot them. You have decided very serious matters. If we quote here for example, some of your decisions you may say to yourselves, how did we place such responsibilities on ourselves? You have decided to stress the application of the law relating to people with weapons and to follow up all the executive measures in this connection. Anyone who follows up such measures can storm a house tomorrow where there is a person who has avoided the implementation of this decision. He might complain: Why has my house been stormed?

This is a serious decision which you should comprehend. With regard to the implementation of the law relating to arming people means that you should be trained in the use of weapons on a regular basis so that an armed people are created. More serious than this is the fact that alterations are made with the participation of the armed people in preparation for the gradual abolishment of the traditional military establishment and the founding of an armed people. Tomorrow, 50,000 of you or may be 100,000 Libyans can be armed (?in one month). A month later there will be another 100,000, and so on. Then the figure rises to 150,000 Libyans and then 200,000. Perhaps that figure will be reached in two weeks. In the future this may become one week. A quarter of a million are trained in one week, to be replaced by another a quarter of a million in one week.

There is no need for compulsory military service, conscription by force, or police looking for you. You should not become a slave for whom the police search. You should train and complete your training hours and then sit free where you are. Why should you be afraid? Walk in the street — as they say — with your head held high. You have performed your duty. In reactionary logic a person may have a sister who is being trained in arms while he himself is hiding at home after evading training. What is his value in your own culture? Any person who is an example of what I have just said let him hear what I am saying. To stress the program of the officer-teacher — tomorrow there may be 1,000 officer-teachers who have absconded; any person charged with the implementation of this decision can bring them and tear them apart in order to reaffirm democracy — to reaffirm the decision of this people.

Decisions by the peoples' congresses should not be taken lightly. A person may [words indistinct] the people have decided to [words indistinct] and this is final. You are against the people. This applies even if the people's policy and its implementation entails death [words indistinct]. To lay down a suitable program for training housewives and to compel female workers in various sectors to undergo military training — all right, you have developed them further. This is great and this people are great and they will develop this great experiment. How nice! You have undertaken very serious commitments.

The training of housewives has become compulsory and subject to a suitable program for their training. Tomorrow a housewife who may not abide by this program may be subjected to insults. Who has decided this? The president of the republic? The chairman of the Revolution Command Council? No, the general officer in command or the supreme commander of the army? No. That is it. The decision was taken by the people's congress. [Passage indistinct] Commissioning the female graduates of the military colleges for girls to train the housewives [words indistinct]. The military girls who graduate today, as I told you [words indistinct].

This is another error which you rectified. It should be taken into consideration that the training should take place after official office hours. Those who have no conscience used to come during the official office hours and say train us. They used to absent themselves from work on the pretext of training. This is treason.

This is a deviation [words indistinct] the people with us. The popular will is asserting itself. After this popular resolution, it is now absolutely unacceptable for any person to be trained during office hours. You go to your job, and after you finish it, they will set a training time for you. [applause]

This is a kind of training. In the new year he resigns. Why? Because during the past year you (?criticized) him at the congress and brought him to book. He will not do something like that again. We have trained a person and taught him what is wrong and told him: We are watching you and will ask you to account for everything you may do [words indistinct].

What are the reasons for his failure? Why should he be labelled as useless? [Words indistinct] failure in something does not mean failure in everything. I have told you this many times — a person who is a primary school teacher may fail in his job from the first day. This does not mean that he is a total failure at everything. All right, he has failed in his profession. There may be failures among teachers in secondary schools or universities. [Words indistinct] we have said that this General People's Committee [words indistinct] with the stress on the people's authority on this great day and say that these administrative actions are within the duties of the General People's Congress. They should not give up and should not ask for help from any person.

I have come here to talk on 2 March on the anniversary of the establishment of the Jamahiriyah and the establishment of the people's authority, and will say and do what reaffirms the people's authority and I will incite the masses in order that their will may become stronger. I have come here in order to clarify more and more my own position and those of my colleagues in this area. I spoke about this in a previous speech.

Therefore, before we can start as a revolutionary supervisory body, we draw the attention of the popular masses at this congress... [changes thought] because the people's committee to whom this person belongs should ask him to account for himself. Yesterday when you came here you mentioned Jadallah 'Azzuz instead of [name indistinct]. How? Why? Where did you get this? Who told you about it? Those who told you so will try to harm you tomorrow. [applause and cheers]. Before arriving at this conclusion we should go by stages. We should first tell the congress: Here is the result of the inquiry. [Indistinct shouts from the floor to which Al-Qadhdhafi replies: Yes, yes, I will come to that in due course]

The Secretariat of the General People's Congress knows on what it depends. (?I have received) the inquiry and the personal files, and I consider the issue as having been concluded. Instead of this frank talk and [words indistinct]. That is it, we begin with change and that is it. No, there is no harm. You should not refrain from talking about many issues. We should not insult each other in public places; we should respect each other. Even the person sentenced to death should not be humiliated. Yes, we sentence him to death according to the law, but we should not humiliate him. Frank criticism in the wrong place should not take place. No person should have his honor or his family insulted. But you should not refrain from openness. [Words indistinct] you should not be so shy that you do not talk openly to anyone. If you have a personal relationship with someone, then this should be confined to your house [words indistinct].

Generally, however, there should be compromise. If someone steals, spends or neglects, his acts should be made public; this is not shameful. We do not have the right to blame him or to insult him. With respect you can show that this person is a thief without telling him that he is a thief, and this is enough. [Passage indistinct]

So, here are the results of the inquiries: You have first of all formed a body of the municipal secretaries. This body has undertaken the questioning of the General People's Committee, according to the correct method. Now the matter is before you. Last year, you postponed looking into the affairs of the General People's Committee in order to see the results of [words indistinct]. And the dossiers of the secretaries — who should all be appraised — the dossiers of last year, 1985... [changes thought] I personally have been asking what has been done with them? What have they done with the [words indistinct] budget? What were the negative and positive items in it?

These kinds of questions are a necessity. He who cannot ask them or who is afraid to do so should say so from the beginning. If such a person is asked to rise to the post of committee secretary he should decline, saying he is not prepared to undertake confrontation and [words indistinct]. Those who are promoted by you for this year and the next should understand this fact now, and they themselves, together with their personal records, will be submitted every year to the General People's Congress. [chants] [Passage indistinct]

Yesterday, you expressed your view about the well-known democracy. A people's committee [words indistinct] a quantitative committee. If we take this middle line and consider it as people's quantitative committee for economy for example, and then we elect it the people's basic conferences... (changes thought] We in this hall, the General People's Congress, when we elect someone we create a secretary. As soon as he becomes secretary for a committee he will become a member of the People's General Committee; everybody can understand this, even school boys. But at this stage the expertise is limited and conditions may not be [words indistinct] We cannot bring someone from outside this middle line or from outside this hall and elect him as the secretary for this committee. [applause] [Passage indistinct]

The general specialized people's committees were abolished. (?It seems) that you forget. The people's congresses decided to abolish the housing and electricity committees during their sessions. Did you not decide to establish companies for electricity and social services and for housing? Did you not just say they are no more and the committees disappeared? There is no committee for housing or electricity. The electricity committee became a company which would supply us with electricity, and we, the consumers, will pay for the electricity whether in our houses, workshops or farms. The company will supply a farm, workshop or house with electricity and the owner will pay fees. That is that. No people's committee or general secretariat. This is a company which has the electricity and supplies the motors with it, and wherever you require light, the company will send you light [words indistinct] If we were workers in a factory, let us say we were in a factory, we would call on the electricity company to bring us electricity to make the factory work. If you work in a iron factory, [words indistinct] factory, glass factory, clothes factory, petrochemical factory and chemical factory, you pay for the electricity given you out of the revenue, from your production. That is that. We ourselves produce the raw materials and we cut the price of electricity and we give it to (?society). This does not need democracy. You have already decided that before. So why do you ask why and how the housing and electricity committees disappeared? This is a general issue.

In addition, the existence or disappearance of the people's committees, or one of the secretariats does not constitute a danger to democracy; this happens in a spontaneous way. If such an entity has no mission, then that is that. It becomes a dead organ, about which you do not have to argue. Whatever will remain, will remain. [Words indistinct] if it has no work anymore. If social security has no central duty, then it will disappear in spite of all of us. We will not decide it. [Words indistinct] and someone said that it should remain, he does not even know the meaning of social security. Let it remain or not; then who will raise his hand? Even if it remained, what then? It has no work. Well then, some people came; who are they? People who became candidates for securing the social security. This has disappeared completely. This disappearance is according to the theory on which this state is based. All these committees will disappear in the future, and they will be replaced by the General People's Committee for the municipalities. Therefore, we are happy that they have begun to disappear gradually. This indicates that everything is going correctly. They will disappear, and some secretariats which remain will disappear in the future, [words indistinct] they will definitely disappear. At every stage we expect that a committee will disappear. People's committees will disappear or a general secretariat will disappear, and will be replaced by a general people's committee, which [words indistinct] for the General People's Committee for the municipalities. Not this committee, the presence of this committee is temporary, and it started to disappear. The housing committee became completely superfluous, and you opted for a company, a company which builds and from which you buy. What do we want from the people's housing committees? These are the plans of the municipalities and [words indistinct].

We have another authority. You call it — what do you call it -- services, facilities, or municipalities. Any office for licences [words indistinct] this street and say its width is so and so and you build buildings here or you build other institutions there. That is that. An expert manages it, not a bureaucracy at all, but an expert who knows how to plan cities. This has nothing to do with democracy. There is no need for committees at all. The planner would say this city should be constructed on a radial system, and that another city would be built according to another system. [Words indistinct] these houses should be of two stories, and those of one story, and those should be apartment buildings, and do not build over there because there will be gardens there and here are car parks. Planning says so. If you do not want to build all by yourself, then you spend money for [words indistinct]. Here is my money, build me a house. [Words indistinct] naturally, these companies are under the supervision of the people's congresses and the committees for [words indistinct]. I say, may the General People's Committee, all of it, disappear in one year, so that you reach the end quickly. [Words indistinct] they are afraid. They said if we have investigated these people, investigated these and those people, and they were found guilty in their behavior last year, and they were found guilty in their work — but we sometimes need them for other jobs and other missions — then we would lose them. Who said that you would lose them? We said you would not lose them. [Words indistinct] they were found guilty in that job, [words indistinct]. They were found guilty in such and such a job, they stay in that job. If someone is found guilty in a job, he stays in it because he was educated and trained, and he will not do it again. [Words indistinct] the advantage of this is that they have read about the matter, and read the personal files and lived [words indistinct] before, and it is possible to carry out the selection of that committee and the whole management of the congress -- which is better than selecting a new committee that would start anew to read the files and the personal files, and would have no idea about all that was done by the other committees of the congress. As for those who said: this Secretariat first, then the congress — this is correct and true, and this is a sound basis, according to which the masses gather in the people's congress and elect a secretariat and select a people's committee. But [words indistinct] of this situation is arranged if these people are the ones. [sentence as heard]

Concerning housing, electric power, energy, oil, [words indistinct], nuclear energy and other issues — we must set up people's committees for them. [as heard] The same for oil: companies to drill with the authority to manage. Set up a people's committee or an establishment for it. It is a purely technical activity. This has nothing to do with democracy -- just exploring for oil and gas. Democracy manages resources. We explore for gas and for oil. We sell them, we use them in industry. And then the task is to manage the revenue they bring in, and whether they should be sold as is or refined. But one must explore, just explore. You are in fact not exploring. No Libyan or Arab is exploring. Complete foreigners are exploring. You now have an idea about gas from the Al-Tahaddi field, in the Gulf of Sidra. Did any of us decide and say: Let us explore here? They were not even Arabs; Americans in an Arab company! I visited them and found that they were Americans.

Geological studies told them to drill for gas there, and not one Arab is taking part in this operation. All we know is that we have brought a company and are exploring for oil. Where? We do not know. Ask those who know. Ask those who know the soil layers, where gas lies and where oil lies. They say there is gas here and there is oil there [words indistinct]. Later on you manage the gas, you can say: All right, the gas is there; let it stay underground. You can sell it, you can liquify it.

As for social security, it has not disappeared. People's committees for social security still exist in every municipality. it is good, that social security exists in every municipality this is better than their being tied down to people in Tripoli or anywhere else in a general committee. Many times I have gone around and found somebody who has broken limbs or handicapped, and people say: This handicapped man has poliomylitis, this one needs a vehicle, this one needs a pair of crutchers. I say: Where is the social security committee? They say: We have addressed ourselves to the General People's Committee for Social Security, but it has not answered. Well then, let there be local social security, which would care for the handicapped, those who need vehicles or a bicycle, and for those who need treatment. It would also decide on various cases or direct those in need to various establishments. This is better than tying this activity down to another department.

Even health is supposed to [words indistinct] because health is bound to [words indistinct]; but there is still a problem. There are hospitals meant for patients from all over the Jamahiriyah that are located in a particular municipality. At this stage, we might not understand that they belong to everyone; we should not believe that they belong exclusively to the municipality where they are located.

As regards justice, what do we have to say about its essence? all these repressive organs must be destroyed. You must create security services in every municipality, in every street; create traffic police and secret police; Create fire brigades, civil defense, and people's courts. You are making laws, and those who violate the law can be tried in the streets. This is done even in Burkina Faso: In that country, when you go somewhere, you may find people gathering and trying somebody in the street. They investigate him, his attitude to the revolution, what he offers to the revolution or society, and whether he is useful or useless. If he is useful, they say he is good, and he gets a light punishment. Somebody else may not have any value, and have done nothing for the revolution or the country; he receives harsh punishment and is imprisoned. They look for evidence that would lessen the punishment of individuals. This is done and said by people who do not know the person on trial. People gather and start the trial by asking the person apprehended what he did. They summon the revolutionary committees to testify whether the accused is good or not for the revolution. Justice must be everywhere. It must not be centralized throughout the Jamahiriyah, [words indistinct] we used to be like that -- in tribes, in the streets, in local groups, everywhere -- courts used to resolve problems. Is it necessary to go to court about matters like divorce, marriage, maintenance money, and so forth? A number of people and relatives can settle (?divorce issues). Two judges — one of the husband's relatives and one of the wife's relatives — can settle the matter. There used to be local courts for local issues. Now your [words indistinct] is local, and what need is there for central [words indistinct]? even [words indistinct]

As for Jamahiri sports: This is the program that has been the worst failure and not just during the tenure of the present sports committee. This was during the tenures of all previous committees. Those who do not share this view should leave us alone. Now all the world is moving towards the Jamahiri sports. They have seen that this era is very dangerous to the health, future and even the structure of man. One might lose the use of limbs without even practising sports; he might be involved in a car or aircraft accident, or electrocuted. Presently, especially in the industrial world, there is a rush towards the Jamahiri sports. Millions are taking part in sports. We have failed. I have never seen a street where Jamahiriy sports are played or a city quarter where they practice Jamahiriy sports. I also noticed there are no sports in schools. There is no alternative; we must build the physique and the mind of the new generation if we want to conquer Zionism and imperialism.

We must build this new Arab generation from the elementary school level, so that it grows up into a giant in physique. To me physical training at schools is more important than 50 percent of the lessons taught there. If this youth is (?so weak physically) how are we going to destroy the enemies? How? We can destroy them through a new angry generation which possesses a physique as strong as steel and a mind which is just as tough. The new generation should be trained in electronics and technology and [words indistinct]. Half of the syllabus is rubbish and reactionary. It is better if the youths are given physical training. In any case, it means that Jamahiri sports have failed. There should be revolutionary committees for Jamahiri sports. Each municipality should (?pay attention) to it. Each quarter in the town has a popular committee [words indistinct].

[Text] In agriculture (?there is) a central issue. Everyone of you can grow something. (?It is not a problem). Agriculture in a country like Libya is privately owned. We do not interfere with you. [Passage indistinct] In every municipality there are popular committees on agriculture. There is an agricultural gazette in every municipality and there are experts and veterinarians in every municipality [words indistinct]. There are central projects and the central projects are a failure or they exist through the efforts of aliens, but they are a failure because the general action is not succeeding in a reactionary society. The society (?in Libya) is reactionary as in the case of underdeveloped societies. It is against the general interest and the general good.

Therefore, we (?must promote) private interest. Every one of us should breed livestock and cultivate the land himself and live on it. You should serve yourself. This is a natural theory and lends itself to (?the nature of development). It appears that the general project is not a success worldwide. You were afraid to apply the principle of partners and not workers. I have not seen any partners. I have not seen workers do their share of production in cement and glass works and motors and buses and trucks and textiles, footwear, chemicals and petrochemicals. I have not seen workers do their share and [words indistinct]. They are working for a wage. This is why the general project is a failure; it is not a socialist project. The second chapter of the Green Book has not been applied up to now. I do not know what it is. Is it the workers or the popular committees who are afraid ? [Passage indistinct]. Why do the workers not take their share of the profits from petrochemicals? Why not? Who produced the products? It is they who produced them. Therefore, on this occasion, I say -- especially after the confrontation with America and with Zionism at one and the same time -- the people emerged on our side because it is in their interests. But an organized people also emerged; they backed us and never ceased to serve and therefore, I tell you that as of now everyone — this is a revolutionary (?principle), it is a revolutionary action — everyone who works in Libya — and I say this in front of the secretaries of the international congresses, the pan-Arab congresses and the secretaries of the basic popular congresses in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah — every worker who works on Jamahiriyah soil as of the 9th anniversary of the emergence of the Jamahiriyah, is considered a partner and not a wage earner [applause] whichever country in the world he comes from. [chants of approval]

Let the general projects of agrarian reform remain general. That is, let it remain a body or corporation. All right, the general body of agricultural production: This one stands on its own even with the existence of the General People's Committee of Agrarian Reforms and Land Recalamation. It exists; this independent body exists. It has seed projects, it has its own budget, engineers and workers. As for other agricultural [words indistinct], they remain with the municipalities. There are farms and animals. That is it, as long as people live and they are happy, and the budget is local.

Why do you want centralization? I do not understand; facilities are available. These are technical ideas; education, scientific research, higher education and others. There may be one or two secretariats. This is not really an issue of democracy and is not submitted for discussion. It is a technical matter. Later we can try them [words indistinct]. Let us suppose that technically and administratively it is said that education should be amalgamated in one secretariat. Personally, I may have a technical idea concerning this issue. It is the place of democracy, I mean democratic discussion, but we are saying this as a supposition. Try it; if this process succeeds, well and good, but if it does not then [words indistinct], education on its own and higher education on its own. You think the country cannot bear separating education, separating light and heavy industries, and all our capabilities have to be in one secretariat, from a technical view. Our view is that they should be separated.

There are entities that have completely disappeared. Some secretariats have completely disappeared and some have disappeared at the general level but still exist at the local level. [Words indistinct] people's committees. The ones which have not disappeared yet are planning, economy, public service, treasury, education, information and culture, health, industry, communications and foreign liaison. These have not disappeared yet. [Words indistinct] must disappear; yes, they disappear, but not tyrannically [words indistinct] have trust, and have the right to [words indistinct] to be distributed in hotels; this is not possible. Not one, two, three or even a hundred agree behind the people's back; one comes out and raises his hand: I nominate so and so, or elevate so and so. Who is to elevate so and so? Let us know where you got the idea, where you got the proposal? This secretariat is chosen by this congress. It has the trust and is an official party, and you can make it accountable. While you can say [words indistinct] it will shoulder the responsibility. This you will only say if you change the General People's Committee or one of them. [as heard] We can help you; so and so and so and so have experience. This is what we have. Then [words indistinct] can raise his hand and say: I am against so and so. He can say we would like so and so, another person. You are free, but the way of distributing [words indsitinct] deprives the congress of authority and enables anyone to play around with you. Someone may come to you and say: this piece of paper is from the leader [words indistinct] take it and read it. [Passage indistinct]

The people's courts are not founded upon a law. [Words indistinct] it is not by a law that the courts of the people's congresses are established. A basic people's congress establishes a court. This concerns the internal regulations of the congress. This includes the General People's Congress, which during its session can form a court [words indistinct] specified in its regulations. It can form a court [words indistinct] this person and that person you are a court, and look at this person and try him, even a person in the congress who deserves to be tried. We schedule a session — if he made a mistake or did something, well then the court will look into it. This is not done according to a specific law. These are the internal regulations of the basic people's congresses. We will stop the sessions. For instance, the formulation, the court, these are the tools of the congress. Do you not have the agendas and minutes of the sessions? Do you not have the formulation, the formulation committee? They are exactly the same [words indistinct]. It is possible from those [words indistinct] only. From another session you can direct another court, and so on. This has nothing to do with law.

The other phenomenon which should not exist, whatever its democratic support, is the Al-Khums municipality phenomenon. It is a negative phenomenon. Regarding some people who have been selected, it became apparent that this selection is suspicious. To correct this it is necessary to rearrange the selection of the committee. But a problem has appeared. The General People's Committee or even the Secretariat of the General People's Congress considered that this committee should be transferred from this municipality to that municipality, so that the people who thought that they would benefit from these individuals did not benefit. This is because they are [wordd indistinct] and they were selected on that basis. You cannot say that is sabotage and [words indistinct] for the Jamahiriyah as a whole. You say no, we do not accept, we do not accept that you bring us a committee from another municipality. The situation includes a subjugation of the Jamahiriyah as a whole. How? These are necessary missions. At least the exceptions are necessary now. As an exception we select a secretary for the committee from outside the committee. Because if your thinking is mature you will not select someone because he is a relative or a neighbor of yours. You have no right to speak because you are not mature. If you were mature, we would not have reached this stage, the stage of moving the one you select to another municipality, while we bring you someone else from amother municipality.

Why did we take such a measure? Because you have not reached the stage of respecting your will. You applied this exception to the rule in all the committees of the Jamahiriyah. [Words indistinct] if the selection is made, which was decided by the General People's Committee, this General People's Committee is not [words indistinct], it is from the people. It said this committee should be transformed to that municipality, and it will be transformed even [words indistinct], it is transformed from municipality to municipality. This committee is transformed from municipality to municipality, from one place to another. The whole committee is transformed. All the committees are transformed. That is it. These committees are just officials of the people. If you want to put them on trial, do so in their places, but the General People's Committee is free to do what it wants. [Words indistinct] this is wrong and is condemned regardless of any excuses. This is the Al-Khums municipality, because it originally selected people on the basis of [words indistinct]. According to this, they were transferred from the municipality and people from another municipality were brought to Al-Khums. As soon as you are transferred to another municipality, then everything stops, even the salaries, because their management of that area is not recognized. Everyone is supposed to look at the matter in this way. [Words indistinct] a sincere and mature people who understand their public interest. But when there is a people, which is described as under age, then they need a central police and central force to control them [words indistinct].

In addition to this introduction [words indistinct] to the agenda and the related matters: Following the questioning and the perusal of the files of the General People's Committee and the General People's Congress Secretariat is completed, which is the democratic method and the revolutionary way, we will refrain from taking any steps until we reach a conclusion as regards the questioning, and until we open the files of every one of them. Then the secretary of the General People's Congress, for example, will ask, after listening to the questioning and having read the files, whether there is a request to change a person or a whole committee. I have lists. If you approve them so be it, but if you do not, you can bring someone else. You are free.

Regarding the internal issue, despite the steep decline in the oil price from $30 to $25 per barrel to the current $15 per barrel. [sentence as heard] In fact, a war has been declared on a world level against the developing countries in Africa, Latin America, and the Arab countries, seeking to destroy them and browbeat them as they [industrial countries] have seen a factor for development and wealth in oil. This is a a new capability for that [developing countries] group, a matter which produces another factor that might be at the expense of the world superpowers' imperialist interests.

We agree that the world has two poles headed by the Soviet Union and the United States of America. This is a balance. International detente is, in fact, aimed at not disturbing this balance to such an extent that they have restricted the acquisition of other lands or other countries. They object to any change in the balance. The United States for example, objects to the Soviet forces' presence in Afghanistan, not for the sake of the Afghan people or in defense of freedom. No. It is because it believes Afghanistan will be pro-Soviet and become a communist state. Thus, we have added another gram to the other side of the scale. And so on. But if another factor were to emerge, such as the establishment of Arab unity or if the developing countries become a striking economic, military, and political power, then this will create a third pole. Consequently, that is undesirable. In fact, this major international economic conspiracy indeed has created this. They have exerted great efforts to replace oil and have found alternative energy sources in the recent past.

When carrying out the revolution in Libya we carried out a world revolution for the benefit of oil-producing countries. We managed to bring the price of a barrel of oil up to 40 dollars, which previously had ranged from 1 to 5 dollars a barrel. It reached the maximum and all oil-producing countries have benefited since the beginning of the 1970's. They have been benefiting from their wealth for the first time, and the credit for that belongs to us in this revolution's leadership.

Following the outbreak of our revolution, we decided -- from a local and national point of view, but within the group of oil-producing countries, after seeing that Libyan oil was being sold at low prices (?and we needed this wealth), and that the world needed oil -- not to sell our oil only at a certain price even if we were to stop production. They were obliged to accept, and we raised the price to 40 dollars. All of the oil-producing countries and the oil experts admit that the Libyan revolution takes the credit for carrying out this revolution for the benefit of the oil-producing countries.

The war, naturally, is underway between the two camps. This means they had been preparing themselves during these years, and are now trying to make us lose the gains we secured in the preceding period. How did they make us incur losses? They did so because of [words indistinct] agents inside the oil-exporting countries, governments working against their own peoples. Oil [in such countries] belongs to governments, to individuals. They told them: This is not your business; you, this ruler or this amir, you receive your income from your field or oil well; sell us the largest quantity possible and take millions which we will deposit in our banks for you. Why should they worry about the people, the toilers, or the developing countries [words indistinct]. Regrettably, there are some Arab countries where oil belongs to individuals, to amirs. It is not like the situation here, with oil pumped in (?Jalu) and you refine it drop by drop, from [words indistinct]. No, over there, anyone with oil found on his tribal land, that is it! It then belongs to the amir or to the shaykh. They may use it to bestow charity on others.

Oil in the Arab countries belongs to rulers, except, obviously, in a progressive state like Algeria. It belongs to rulers; it does not even belong to the government. No, it belongs to shaykhs, sultans, and amirs. [Words indistinct] the Americans came and told them: We will only enter into contracts with each amir separately. They had individual contracts with Dubai, without any relation with the oil-exporting countries, with the people, or even with the United Arab Emirates.

They [Americans] have dispensed with energy. I mean they have created energy sources that have enabled them to dispense with energy to a certain extent, through not completely. They have purchased large quantities of oil from these states [where amirs and shakys own oil], and deposited it as reserves. And they have asked the agents I have mentioned, those who own oil individually as private property, they have asked them to increase production. That is it. The offer rose, demand slumped, and prices dwindled.

Undoubtedly they have made these countries incur reasonable losses, but now it is our turn. We are engaged in a counterattack to secure a price rise. Analysts believe that oil cannot be dispensed with, and it [oil prices] will not slump continuously. They will reach a certain level, and they will start to rise again. Great efforts currently are being exerted to convene a meeting of oil-producing states so that they may reduce production, demand a price rise, and recoup their losses as much as possible.

Naturally, efforts are now concentrating on Saudi Arabia, inside the Arab states, and the oil-exporting states because all of these states consider Saudi Arabia responsible in view of its large oil reserves. It started to produce large quantities and thus flooded the market which depressed the price of oil and made it cheap. This has harmed states like Libya, Algeria, Nigeria and some other oil-producing countries.

If the wealth does not belong to the people, well, the people do not benefit from it anyway because it does not reach them. [sentence as heard] So if the price of gasoline is increased or decreased, it makes no difference because the people are not affected. If someone used to produce 10 units and received 1 million dinars, now he produces 20 units but still gets 1 million. Why should he bother to produce 20 instead of 10, instead of 10 barrels to produce 20 barrels? The important thing for him is that he gets 1 million, even at the expense of the oil reserves. Reserves are calculated in terms of scores of years, but the individual does not calculate his life in terms of scores of years when calculating for himself. The people as a whole calculate in scores of years, hundreds of years, and thousands of years. The individual does not do this.

Irrespective of the great fall in oil about which I have alerted you repeatedly. [sentence as heard] I have repeatedly told you that you have nothing but the oil to sell, and that the oil price may fall or you may not find a buyer. You have heard me say that you that you must find an alternative for oil. Stop imports, stop luxuries. Dispense with this and that. [chants]

However, as far as Libya is concerned, the problem is not all that big. In my opinion the solution lies in the fact that as you are now celebrating the anniversary of the Jamahiriyah and the establishment of the authority of the people, and as you are consolidating your free and independent existence on your territory for the first time, you should boldly face up to any crisis -- be it military, political, or economic. You must tackle matters with radical solutions and you have actually begun th process with these resolutions. The best thing is, I believe as a citizen, either we all will be subjects of the state or each of us will act independently and each of us will manage his own affairs. But such a thing is dangerous in regard to solutions.

When you are under the jurisdiction of the state, all Libyans should be given salaries. But these salaries should be unlike those of the past: a salary allowing you to live, to eat, to drink, to clothe yourselves; then you save the rest. Either you save it for yourself or you save it for the public treasury. With salaries that are just sufficient for us to live, we can develop our country; we can address ourselves to the production achievements I have been talking about. Complexes for agriculture, for industry, for education will be set up.

Or you could say: No, we do not accept such a solution, and each one of us will serve his own family. Well, fine. you get a loan, get a salary, get the salary given now or get the available salary [ratib mutawaffir] which could be greater or lesser than your present salary. You than say: I want to establish a farm, or I want breed animals, or I want open a workshop. Thus, each one would maintain the minimum level of employees or the people they need on the level of the state. If you can cut this down further, it would be even better. There would no longer be anyone in need of an employee, management, or office; it would be better. In this way there would be no problem.

The price of oil will increase again. We have reserves for scores of years in oil and gas. The world needs the wealth we have. It would be a grave thing for us to squander it now. We are selling the oil cheaply now and in this way we will deplete it. Instead of it lasting us for 30 years, it will last us only 10 years. [Passage indistinct] When their revenue fell they doubled the production. When a barrel of oil cost $30, for example, they sold $1 million worth. When it fell to $15, they began to sell 2 million barrels, in order to maintain the same level of revenue through the doubling of production. It is a serious matter for each to double his production and thus flood the market. Although our words will be held against us politically, it must be said that Saudi Arabia is strongly to blame and so are all the oil-producing countries. However, Saudi Arabia defends itself by saying it urged you to abide by the quantities allocated for you, but you violated the agreement on quotas and, consequently, Saudi Arabia was forced to increase its production. Truly, this argument is reasonable to a great extent. I have to say this for the sake of fairness. I am aware that Iraq, the UAE and Nigeria even before the recent coup, failed to abide by their allotted quotas. When their quota was 1 million barrels a day, they produced 1 and 1/2 million barrels. Consequently, they flooded the market with their excessive production.

It is a fact that Saudi Arabia repeatedly warned that everyone must adhere to his allotted quota, so that the oil-producing countries together would not produce more than 16 million barrels a day. But when production reached 19 million barrels a day, it meant that 2, 3, or 4 million barrels were above the limit [words indistinct]. Saudi Arabia says it warned you and consequently it no longer consider itself bound. Saudi Arabia has immense capabilities and immense resources; it can produce 12 million barrels a day, but it would be doing this at the expense of its future. I believe that the oil resources of Saudi Arabia and the Gulf countries are being depleted irresponsibly and will one day lead to turning these countries into deserts. All their palaces and edifices will become ruins and [words indistinct], their glass will break and their wood will rot and the luxurious cars will become scrap and they will return again to their camels and go hunting for deer [words indistinct] from the American cars [words indistinct]. When you visit the Gulf countries you can see buildings and decorations which will astound you. In few years time, after the depletion of oil, all will turn into darkness. This will actually happen unless something is done to save the region.

But we wish to warn that if these countries persist with their policy which is detrimental to us by producing large quantities of oil in excess of allotted quotas, it would be equivalent to a declaration of war. It would mean that we are faced with a state of war, which we will fight by God, by all means, because we would be defending our wealth and our resources.

Contacts with Saudi Arabia are continuous. I have personally contacted them by telephone. There are also written messages from King Fahd; they contain nice words, saying that Libya is Saudi Arabia and Saudi Arabia is Libya. Thus, to the letter, we cannot harm our brothers here in Libya. However, practically nothing has been achieved. Saudi Arabia is still producing [oil], still blaming other countries, the other countries blame Saudi Arabia. The result is that the imperialist conspiracy continues at the expense of these peoples' future. Naturally, it is useless to discuss a subject like this. Even if it were (?put before) the General People's Committee a thousand times a day it will not change the price of oil by one penny until the equation regarding oil-producing countries is changed.

The issue pertains to the liberation of the entire Arab region and oil must be under the contrl of the Arab masses, who someday must be able to stand up and say: If there is no oil we can live without it, and we can live on bread and water, even for a year. Then, tomorrow, the consumers will say: Please sell us the oil at $100 million per barrel. That is because reserves will be depleted, and they are in need of oil. There is no dispensing with oil and gas. But because they have a surplus and our production is great, they have stored it and reluctantly say to us: We will not buy from you at more than $15 or $13. If these peoples wanted to save their lives they could decide to live in great austerity, even for several months, or abandon oil production, or produce a very little. This would turn the picture upside down. From the 16 million barrels per day we offer them on the market, let us offer them only 6 million. They might ask for 10 millions barrels per day, ask us to provide them with 10 million barrels per day at $30 per barrel. This could happen immediately, in one day, if we decide to do it.

Generally, we see the countries whose conomic and oil policies affect our fate as countries declaring a state of war. If it continues it will be considered a state of war. I say that the escalation of the Gulf war, the crossing by Iranian forces of Shatt al-Arab, their occupation of new Iraqi territories, their crossing of the [words indistinct] borders, their occupation of the north of Iraq is in fact a response to the oil conspiracy. Indeed, in this way, oil production must be stopped in the Gulf region, its production must be hindered. Apparently it is a state of war. The U.S. officially announced that if anyone interferes with Gulf oil it will intervene militarily because it represents a vital interest to America. This means cutting off oil supplies to America, which is considered a state of war. We, on our part remind America of what it said, and use the same pretext: Whoever denies us oil, increases his production, ruins the market for us, and denies us these revenues is harming our vital interests, and here we will use every means to defend ourselves. If it is a state of war, let it be a state of war.

In such a case Libya, Iran and Algeria will be states very close to one another, because the goal is to bring these countries to their knees; to bring Libya, Algeria and Iran to their knees, for the benefit of reactionary and imperialist forces. In such a case, Algeria, Libya and Iran will be forced to unite their respective forces to defend their vital interests, because they are being attacked for their means of sustenance. Responsibility would then be borne by he who has declared this war on us, and neither America nor anyone else can protest, because the United States itself said that anyone fighting my oil interests would be infringing U.S. vital interests, and it would then intervene militarily.

We use the same point: Anyone adversely affecting our oil production would be harming a very, very vital interest; and we are prepared to use all means to defend our interests. I was contacted by the king of Morocco, by King Fahd, and a number of [pauses] even the Iraqis, the Kuwaitis, concerning the crossing of Shatt al-Arab by the Iranian forces. I told them: This is a reaction to the war waged on Libya, Algeria and Iran against their means of sustenance. You want to bring us to our knees! The United States has not been able to bring us to our knees, and you want to bring us to our knees in lieu of them, on orders from the United States? Obviously, Saudi Arabia rejects these accusations, saying: We do not want to bring anyone to their knees, but the oil-producing states have not met their commitments, and we are obliged to produce as we want! Naturally, this recent Saudi production has considerably affected these states.

As a matter of fact, on this occasion I want to make it clear that the Gulf countries are currently making reproaches to Libya, Syria and even Algeria over why these states support Iran against Iraq. Here lies a deception: They say this war is an Arab-Persian war! Right. Why, when the shah, a racist Persian, occupied the Arab islands in the Gulf, and when we then called for fighting them, why did you, the Arabs in the Gulf, in Jordan and in Egypt, why did you not fight the shah? Answer!

I contacted them one by one over the telephone. 'Abbas Hoveyda, then president of the Iranian house of representatives, convened the Iranian house of representatives just to brag: Today at dawn, the Persian flag was hoisted over the Greater and Lesser Tonb Islands in the Gulf. The Iranian revolution executed 'Abbas Hoveyda. This president of the house of representatives was executed. Now, concerning his blatant defiance from racist 'Abbas Hoveyda and his president, the shah: Why, at that time, did the Arabs not speak about a Persian confrontation, or urge us to unify our forces and liberate these islands? And why did Saddam Husayn agree with the shah of Iran and hand him the Shatt al-Arab by way of the Algiers treaty? We told him: It would be a disgrace for you to accept this treaty with the shah of Iran. He said: No, the Arabs and Persians are brothers! And the Arabs in the Arabian Peninsula used to say about our Muslim brothers: We are Muslims. We said: They are Persians; he [the shah] is a Persian and we are Arabs; he wants to dominate you! They said: No, we are all Muslim brothers.

Now, since the outbreak of the revolution in Iran, they do not say: We are all Muslims. They say: They are Persians, and we are Arabs! Why did you not say so when the shah was there, challenging the Arab nation? Now they are proved to be Persians! Look at this logic! Every Libyan must understand this, so as not to say: Why are we supporting Iran? We called for an Iranian revolution, and the Iranian leaders listened to my speeches while they were in jail. They admit this. They said: We were listening and recording them; you were inciting us to rise when we were in the shah's prisons. The shah was an ally of the Israelis.

The shah was an ally of the Israelis, of South Africa, and of the United States. He constituted the biggest threat to the entire region through the U.S. presence. Because the United States was the supreme master of the Arab and Iranian regions at that time, there was a harmony between the regimes in the Arab homeland and the then Iranian regime. They were all partners in agentry. The United States was the supreme master of the region. Now that Iran has liberated itself from U.S. domination, it has turned against the Israelis siding with the Arab nation and the Palestine people. It has turned against racist South Africa, siding with Africa and openly against the United States. But now the Iranians are being described as Persians and we as Arabs. We will never betray the Iranian revolution. It is a revolution backing us against the Israelis, against America, and against South Africa. We will never fight it. To say that that revolution is against Iraq, is a big fallacy. We are not against Iraq, but only against the fascist Ba'thist regime, which is the enemy of the

Iraqi people. We are with the heroic Iraqi army and with the Iraqi people who are our people, and with the Iraqi revolutionaries. I personally am leading part of the pan-Arab revolutionary forces which comprise the Al-Jut Front and Juqat front [names as heard], two Iraqi fronts fighting the fascist Ba'thist regime. They are Iraqi forces. [applause] Thus, it is a great fallacy to claim that Libya is against Iraq. Not at all. We are with Iraq and with the Iraqi people and the Iraqi army. The Iraqi revolutionary front constitutes a part of the forces we lead.

Brothers. The Iraqi people would not open any radio stations broadcasting against you as you are confronting the United States. Our Iraqi people could never condone this. Would it be logical for our Iraqi people to open stations against us when we are facing America and when the whole world is siding with Libya against the United States? However, the Iraqi regime opened six radio stations to demoralize the Libyans during their confrontation with the United States in the Gulf of Sidra. Would the Iraqi people do such a thing? Not at all. It was Saddam Husayn and his fascist Ba'thist regime who did this. How then, can we support him? Listen to the radio which calls itself the Voice of the Masses when the masses have nothing to do with it. The Iraqi masses have nothing to do with that radio. Morocco and even the UAE told him to stop these anti-Libyan people stations which only serve the United States. But he refused. [applause and chants] This is the state of affairs as regards Iraq.

This is the position in Iraq. It has even rejected mediation. They told us it is of no use. How can Saddam Husayn accept mediation from Libya, and simultaneously begin hostile stations against it. He wrecked King Hassan's mediation and wrecked Shaykh Zayid's mediation. They rebuked us: How can you stand against Iraq? We do not stand against Iraq. We (?visualize) the revolution in Persia (?to be) in the land of the Arabs. We were (?against) Iran, we [words indistinct] the revolution. When Iran sided with the United States and was ruled by the racist shah we were against him, but now the United States wants us to fight the revolution. The United States is the enemy of the Libyan revolution, the Iranian revolution, and the Palestinian revolution. It is standing against the Palestinian revolution, the Iranian revolution, and the Libyan revolution, against Syria, against Algeria. Does it make sense for us to fight with our rifles on the U.S.'s behalf, or to fight a revolution fighting the United States?

Some are saying the Iranians will take Iraq, and then will continue and take Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, and the Arab homeland. If that were to happen it will mean that Iran is (?anti)-revolution), appearing to be Persian, racist, sectarian, Shi'ite, colonialist, and imperialist. Then there will be no difference between imperialism and Iran, and we will fight it in the same way we fight the United States, but only if this occurs. Yet this will not occur as long as there is an Iranian revolution. The revolution may turn into colonialism. If the Iranians turn into colonialists it means they are not revolutionaries, they will become Persians and colonialists, and Shi'ite. There is a (?chance) between us. Let Saddam Husayn fall, and we will see. If Iraq is annexed by Iran, then Iran will be a colonialist country and we will rise to fight it. If Iran proved that it is a revolution and toppled that regime, which the Iraqi people have not yet overthrown, and the Iraqi people became free and allied themselves with the Iranian revolution, if such words become true and Iran is a revolution, then the Arabs will not have an excuse to fight that revolution.

If the Arabs are defending the Arabs in the peninsula and Arab nationalism, and (?here we have) Arab nationalism being threatened by the United States and are being blockaded. [sentence as heard] The Israelis, are they not an alien power occupying Palestine? Why do they not fight them? How could only Iran be the alien? Now, because the Iranian is a revolution and because he is against the Israelis and against the Americans, then he must be an alien in the viewpoint of Arab reaction. The Israeli is an alien. Why do you Arabs not fight him in the name of Arab nationalism? The United States is a foreign power hostile to the Arab nation. Why do you not fight it with us? They have even taken (?economic measures) against us [words indistinct].

We now tell them [not further identified]: We asked them to form a union among the Arabian Gulf countries. We told you, you who are afraid of Iran and of its revolution, to set up a unionist state comprising the countries of the Arabian Gulf region. We said make a state of that peninsula, of those worn-out bits of paper countries. They refuse to set up a state. That is it. A vacuum, a vacuum. Whenever a force emerges in the region, whether Iranian or any other, it is bound to fill the vacuum. This is a natural rule, (?the colonization) of a vacuum. Someone is bound to colonize this region, while it remains rich and open.

We presented a draft project on establishing an Arab federation to them. This does not change any of the rulers. These rulers will remain rulers; in fact the project enhances their positions. Up to now they have not achieved federation. Each one of them read the draft and approved it but then remained silent. We told them to fight Israel in order to liberate Palestine. They did not fight Israel. We told them to fight United States, but they said no, the United States is our friend. We told them to contribute together with you Libyan Arab people in the great man-made river — with your wealth, with your billions which you invest in U.S. banks. They refused. They did not give even a penny. For your information the Arabs did not give a penny toward the great industrial river.

We want to declare this now. They pledged to compensate Libya as a result of the U.S. economic war. So far they have not given a penny to Libya as compensation for the war which the United States imposed on us. Despite all this they ask us why we support Iran? We support Iran as long as Iran supports us. All right, why did you not participate with us in the great man-made river? You did not compensate us for the war which the United States imposed on us. You have not even established a federation among yourselves to fill the vacuum in the face of Iran. [as heard] You have not established an Arab union. You drown the market with oil. Then you ask us why we stand with Iran. As long as Iran is a catastrophe which God has created for the Arabs in the Gulf then this is a blessing. We are with the catastrophe. [applause]

We want to write down these words to send them so that they can read the words slowly if they do not hear such words from their own radios. We want to send these words through the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison to every Arab region and to the Arab League. They claim that Libya is against Iraq. We are with Iraq. Look at the government which is dominating the

Iraqi people — look what it is doing against us. We do not support Iran every time. When Iran was Persian we were against it. When it became a revolution we supported it. Why did you not fight Iran during the days of the shah? Why did you not fight it when we told you to fight it? This is for the benefit of every Libyan. I say this for the benefit of every Libyan, please forgive me, who may be ignorant or naive or any Libyan who may be deceived by others; such a Libyan should understand these facts and read these words well several times.

On the internal level there is no major problem or secret. We have put an end to internal exploitation. There is no longer any possibility for the emergence of exploitation anew within the socialist system currently established in Libya. I have seen some parties, reactionary of course, who express fear from the current revolutionary activities. They say they demolished a house; they demolished a mansion; they divided a farm. Any person who left Libya is now in the hostile ranks on America's side. He is finished. He will receive no mercy or compassion shown at home or abroad. All traces of him should be wiped out. Even his house should not remain so that he can say that he has a house to go back to. [shouts and cheers: O leader, proceed and take no notice; we sacrifice ourselves and our blood for you]

However, there is no fear from those who are inside. There is no possibility for inequality between individuals. No one can harbor ambitions for having a large farm in Libya while another Libyan has no farm at all or has only a small farm. Ambition is out of the question. We must be equal: This is a farm revolutionary act. Nor is there room for anyone who would use Libyan land and materials to build a building on it without paying taxes to the Libyan people. This could have been acceptable if they had paid for the building from their own funds; but if somebody uses Libyan land and construction materials, and takes Libyan foreign exchange abroad to import floor tiles and marble, they then must pay taxes on the extras they have. From now on, there will be no extras; each of us will have only 500 square meters; 200 square meters; 1000 square meters, 800 square meters; the same for all. [slogans and chants]

Libyans in Libya must be equal, and there is no fear of anyone. There is fear for those who think they are higher than other Libyans, or who want to take away their land and exploit them. If they have a house abroad, destroy it so that they cannot say: I still have a house abroad. They will not find a trace of it. Their farms must be taken by the Libyan people, because these people are finished; they have sold their souls to the devil. Now anyone remaining abroad is disgraced and so is his family and anyone related to him. For the world, which is not Arab at all, stands with the Libyan people against the United States; and in this case if a Libyan stands with the United States then he is finished. Blasphemy is the greatest of sins.

Any Libyan here inside Libya must accept being equal with us no matter what his status was in the past; rich or not, member of the government or not. We do not admit such things. All we want is Libyans on equal footing, and no Libyan must persecute another Libyan, whatever the circumstances. So long as you are here with us, you live like us.

As for the resolving of the present economic crisis, we have said that resources have diminished in comparison with the situation before, but they might increase. At any rate, whether they increase or not, there must be economy in spending and a move toward production. One must not seek the ownership of cars or money. No, one must produce, produce grains, fruit, vegetables, meat, milk, eggs. These are the things toward which we must now orient oufselves. This is easy. Every family must work the land and feed itself. [chants] Every family can do this.

Every family plans how to manage its situation. The important thing is we will not be hungry, thirsty, without clothing until the end of the oil problem when the situation improves. It means it is possible, in a simple way, to overcome any crisis. No matter how much we lost in the price drop, in my opinion the loss was only in terms of luxury and extravegant items we used to buy. Let us suppose that we were selling at $30 per barrel; in fact only $15 were spent on essential goods and the other $15 were spent on a variety of items, such as expensive clothes hangers, which we imported from abroad. A nail can do the job. You have probably seen the radio station offices during interviews; they all have these clothes hangers, not necessarily to hang clothes on but just to have in the office. It seems we cannot live without other items similar to this. We might be paying half our oil revenue to import them. Therefore, we did not lose because we can do without these trivial goods. I am sure that any loss we have sustained in the price drop is embedded in the superficial goods of which we were unaware and on which we spent a lot because there was a lot of money. We are obliged to spend seriously on the rest and on essential goods [words indistinct].

The problem is not an internal problem; neither is it an international problem. It is, as I see it, a pan-Arab problem. We must think on how this pan-Arab problem can be solved and by what means. We have no Libyan problem. I do not think that Libya will face serious problems economically. Political problems are nonexistant as authority is in the hands of the people. They have no problems like the Philippines or Egypt or the countries where their peoples are facing oppression and exploitation. There is no exploitation and no oppression. All capabilities, whether large or small, are in the hands of the people.

Before us is the pan-Arab problem. I have no worries at all that there is a Libyan problem at the economic, political or even the military level. From the military aspect [words indistinct] United States. The confrontation is really not between Libya and the United States. The United States is a superpower confronted by a superpower, in other words, the Soviet Union and the United States; the Atlantic alliance and the Warsaw Pact. However, the United States considers Libya to be enemy No 1 because Libya is in its path while it advances to occupy the Arab world and advances toward the Soviet Union. Therefore, it intends to destroy this resistance in its path and consequently it gives Libya the first priority. However, if the United States is fighting or not fighting the Soviet Union is a separate international issue. The United States dominates Europe and stations missiles there and in the Mediterranean. This is also a separate question. In fact, if the United States violates our sanctity or attacks our soil, we will fight it. We would do the same if it were America or the Planet Mars. If it violates the latitude 32 degrees 30 minutes, it means it has entered our home and we will fight it. We will be confident even if it strikes at us with ICBM missiles or bombs and destroys our factories and homes. God is triumphant. We fight when someone enters our home. We did not cross the Atlantic Ocean to the United Staes nor did we go to its borders.

If the United States wants to force us to surrender the Gulf of Sidra, then tomorrow it would force us to surrender something else. Tomorrow it will say: I want to pass between Misrata and Banghazi; you should not intercept my aircraft, the airspace is mine, and if you intercept. [sentence as heard] Just like the Israelis. They intercept our planes and threaten us if we intercept theirs. We are insistant that if an Israeli civilian planes comes within range of our aircraft we will force it to land. Let the world hear this and let the Israelis and Americans hear it.

We won in this confrontation. The United States was trying to mobilize public opinion against the Jamahiriyah. What happened was the opposite; world public opinion was mobilized in favor of the Jamahiriyah and against the United States. We now have the support of the whole world and all peoples have endorsed, (?through) national internationalist congresses, that the Gulf of Sidra is now regarded by the world as an inseparable part of Libyan territory. This situation is the same as the confrontation that took place in Egypt in 1956: 'Abd al-Nasir nationalized the Suez Canal, and the superpowers at that time — Britain and France — said that the Suez Canal did not belong to Egypt. Exactly like the Gulf of Sidra, they said the Suez Canal was an international canal. It was considered an international waterway and Egypt had no right to control the canal. This is how it was. 'Abd al-Nasir nationalized the canal. It belonged to an English company which administered it as though it were not in Egypt. He nationalized the canal and said: It is Egyptian, and whoever passes through here must pay fees to Egypt; the canal is an inseparable part of Egyptian territory, and Israelis are forbidden from passing through the canal because this is an Arab canal. They fought him by force, this tripartite aggression against Egypt, in order to convince the world that the Suez Canal was international. They said that they did not recognize that it belonged to any country; it will remain international. The outcome confirmed the Egyptianization of the Suez Canal — by war. The tripartite aggression led to a negative outcome for the countries that carried it out. At the end of the aggression the world confirmed that the Suez Canal was Egyptian, and not international, and it has remained so until now, despite the efforts of France, Britain and Israel and despite the tripartite aggression at that time. They launched a military campaign to open the Suez Canal by force to pass through it by force.

This is precisely what the United States is doing in the Gulf of Sidra, but the United States has forgotten the lessons of the tyrannical colonialists and imperialists. They did not benefit from the lessons; they forgot the lesson of Vietnam; the lesson of Lebanon, when a single fedayeen killed 300; and forgot the Suez Canal. Now the United States is trying to repeat it in the Gulf of Sidra. Now the Arabism and Libyanism of the Gulf of Sidra has been confirmed more than ever. The whole world now realizes that there is a gulf called the Gulf of Sidra. It is an inseparable part of Libyan territory. We will die for it, and all peoples will fight beside the Libyan people for the Gulf of Sidra. Meanwhile, the United States continues to say that the Gulf of Sidra is an international canal [words indistinct]. The whole world now confirms that the Gulf of Sidra is (?ours). Consequently, we now have the right to defend every drop of water of the Gulf of Sidra in view of the fact that before the world, it is our gulf, our right, and part of our territory.

Perhaps before the world knew where the Gulf of Sidra was, they would have asked what and where is the Gulf in the event a battle were to take place. Now they know that the Gulf of Sidra is an inseparable part of Libyan soil, within Libyan boundaries. This gives us more capability, a right, more legitimacy to fight for the gulf because the whole world now recognizes it as our gulf. This overwhelming support from peoples is enough.

The other outcome is that a new internationalism at world level has been established; its center is in Libya, its headquarters in Libya, and its leadership in Libya in order to struggle with the Libyan people for the Gulf of Sidra and for Palestine and against the United States and Zionism. This has been missing. We now have with us the secretaries of the internationalist basic people's congresses, who declare their membership in the international people's front in their resolutions. We have been calling for an international people's front against imperialism which has not been realized at an official level; however, it has been realized now at the people's level. The people have declared the establishment of the international people's front. [applause] This is a declaration of the international people's front which was established to confront United States and imperialist hostile threats against the peace-loving Jamahriyah people. They call us terrorists while the internationalist congresses declare that the Libyan people are peace-loving. They have attacked us in the Gulf of Sidra, and when we resist they say we are terrorists threatening peace [words indistinct] who threaten peace.

We support the Arab peopple with all our force, out of profound faith. We firmly stand against U.S. imperialist terrorism. We declare our absolute support for the world popular front and that the Jamahiriyah is the haven for all the world's free men and revolutionaries, and that it is that front's headquarters. These resolutions adopted by the international popular congresses are grave. This is a gain we won as a result of the confrontation.

They declared their absolute belief that Palestine is an Arab land occupied by the Zionist forces backed by the United States. All these peoples, irrespective of their origins and including the peoples of Western Europe and the United States itself, have declared this now in their congresses on the free Libyan territory. These peoples and masses found the freedom here to express themselves and to say whatever they like. They could not say this in their own homelands, but they could in Libya. We have won over all these people. They said Palestine is an Arab land occupied by the Zionist forces backed by the United States. They also declared that the Gulf of Sidra is an indivisible part of Libya.

We have wrested this support from the international congresses. We have won this testimony from them: The Gulf of Sidra is an indivisible part of Libya, it lies within the Libyan Arab territorial waters, and the Libyan Arab people have the full right to retrieve it. They denounced the U.S. military presence and the U.S. naval and air maneuvers off Libyan shores, which threaten world peace, and declared that any aggression against the Jamahiriyah constitues an aggression against all peace-loving peoples. They also declared that in the event of such an aggression, we will turn into bombs that will destroy all U.S. interests throughout the world. They also said: We demand the withdrawal of all foreign fleets from the Mediterranean and turn that sea into a lake of peace instead of a sea threatening mankind with annihiliation. We appeal to the American people to bring down the terrorist Reagan, who plays with fire and threatens world peace. It suffices to have such a denunciation by the international congresses. He [Reagan] thought he had won over public opinion against Libya. But it has now transpired that all world public opinion is with Libya. All the peoples expressed their readiness to volunteer to fight alongside Libya for the sake of the Gulf of Sidra. Nevertheless, we say this problem is not an international one. I have said that as far as the United States is concerned, if it crosses our borders, by God, we will be forced to fight it.

We are intent on the unification of the Arab nation and the liberation of its territories. This is a matter which concerns us, the Arabs. If the United States enters, then we Arabs will be forced to confront it. This is our land and they have nothing to do with it. We did not at all object to what George Washington did for the U.S. liberation from British colonialism and for its unification. If the United States considered their actions legitimate, patriotic, and noble, they also must consider our actions legitimate, patriotic, and noble and consequently show respect for them. But the United States has no regard for freedom. Indeed, it has no regard for its own history. It suffers from megalomania. It wants all peoples to be subservient to it.

The truth of the matter is that I am prepared for confrontation even inside our homes. The doors of our homes should be at the 32 degree latitude line, that is, at the entrance of the Gulf of Sidra. If anyone enters the Gulf of Sidra and penetrates between Misrata and Banghazi and begins to play inside Libya's homeland, we cannot accept it, whatever the price and however strong the aggressor might be. We will fight him. We have to fight him. When I say we will fight, I do not care whether we will triumph or not. But fight we will, because that is our duty.

The Israelis permit themselves to intercept Arab planes but they do not have us to intercept their planes. We, in fact, object to their entire existence. Their existence conflicts with the Arab nation's existence. We must call on the Arab nation to fight the Israeli entity. War must be declared on this entity until it is eliminated, in spite of the United States and in spite of world Zionism.

We are with the Jews as long as they remain in their homelands, and we want them to enjoy equal rights in Europe, Asia and everywhere, alongside their other compatriots. But for the Jew, who was persecuted in Europe because he was a Jew, to come to the Arab homeland, to become an invader and win support of those who had previously persecuted him, is something we cannot accept. If Europe supports the Jews, why do the Jews then flee Europe? Let it support them there and grant them their full rights there. Why does it expel them just because they are Jews? Yet they protest against the Arabs, accusing them of being antisemitic. We are semites. How do you Europeans persecute the Jews? You persecuted the Jews when they were French, British, American and German citizens. All the Jews now living in Palestine belong to the nationality of another country. Why do you persecute them and force them to come to Palestine?

If everyone should go to the land he holds sacred, then the Muslims should all go to Saudi Arabia, seize the oil and declare Mecca their capital. Come on. Tomorrow let us travel by cars, planes and on foot in a big exodus. What do we want with this desert, where we have settled for some years? We no longer need it. Let us go then to our homeland. Kaaba would become our capital, just like Jerusalem. We are Muslims and our religious state is the Arabian peninsula. We would take the oil, everything, without anyone being able to prevent us. If they want to prevent us, then they should prevent the Israeli immigrants who are coming to Palestine: that is, the Jews. Let them ban the Jewish immigration to Palestine and also ban those coming from Indonesia and Nigeria, especially in the present oil crisis. But we would go to the Arabian peninsula, because it produces more oil. This is our peninsula and our oil. The Jews have said that Palestine is their country and its wealth is for them. Well, our country is the Arab peninsula. The country of the Muslims is the Arab peninsula. We (?who have oil), Nigerians, Libyans and Algerians can decide and go to the Arab peninsula; they cannot stop us, because they know our forefathers. The problem is the existence of the alien Zionism, which is, in fact, a pan-Arab problem and not an international problem. The Israelis, we have declared and we are adamant, will be intercepted if they try to cross the Mediterranean to our side, because they have (?manifested) their alien existence. The United States is an alien in the Mediterranean.

The second gain is that we — and for the first time — we the Arabs have managed to stop the Israelis from acting freely. The Israelis have changed all their air routes. [chants] They have changed all their air routes and against their will, have taken them away from the Mediterranean. Now they fly from occupied Palestine via Greece, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia to get to Italy. If they are listening to what I am saying and want to defy us by saying: Despite Al-Qadhdhafi we are going to fly over the Mediterranean — let them try, we will intercept with our warplanes. [chants] If they are listening to what I am saying and want to defy us by flying over the Mediterranean, we hereby declare to the United States, which is defending them, and to the Jews and those who are afraid of them, that we — in any part of the Mediterranean which is within the reach of our bases — will intercept its planes with our warplanes and force them to land, and any Israeli plane which we intercept but refuses to land will be downed by our missiles. [chants] We should be prepared to involve the Arab countries neighboring Palestine if Israeli aggression against Libya takes place. Let me explain the situation. The United States has equipped the Israelis with mid-air refuelling aircraft, like those used when they raided Tunis. I mean, if an aircraft takes off from occupied Palestine, it cannot reach Tunis and back. They have these kind of aircraft which can be used to refuel warplanes in midair, and by this method they can reach Libya. Libyan aircraft can reach Palestine, but cannot come back: That is, it is possible to raid and attack a target inside Palestine, but then we have to land, either in Jordan, Syria or Egypt. Our aircraft can carry out such an operation, but it ends then and there.

Arabs must understand — if the Israelis can attack Libya by using these long-distance means made available to them by the United States, we are of course bound to retaliate. And not only mere retaliation — it will be continuous war between us and them. This means that Egypt, Jordan and other Arab countries neighboring Palestine, must understand that they, against their will, will get involved in the war because we will raid targets in Palestine and land in these countries' airports, even if the pilots have to parachute there. [chants] Thus we will create a problem between them and their people and between them and their armies.

We are waiting to see if an Arab army will prevent an Arab aircraft which has just hit the Israeli enemy from landing. Or even down it. We are ready to accept a loss in this manner, even two or three losses, until we create a revolution in these Arab countries. When we hit the common enemy and we try to land in these countries and use their lands, but are prevented by these governments, then the nationalist armies and the Jamahir will rise up. The Jamahir will accept Libyan aircraft which hit the Israelis and land in an Arab country, even if they make them land upon their hands [as heard] if these government are not willing to do so. This will create a revolutionary situation. The masses will move because we will announce that a Libyan aircraft has hit the enemy and tried to land in that named Arab country, but your government has prevented it from doing so. We will tell the military and the popular masses that we have raided the common enemy, but your regime has declined to cooperate with us by not receiving our aircraft.

Egypt, Jordan, and other Arab states neighboring Palestine will get involved in such an action if one begins between us and Israel. As for the Americans, they must understand that any U.S. aircraft flying at the 32.5 degree latitude line will be downed by our missiles. [applause and cheers] They understand that the SAM-5 missiles have a range that reaches further than the 32.5 degree latitude line; they cover the Gulf of Sidra — that is to say further than the gulf. [applause] They must understand that any U.S. warship that sails inside the 32.5 degree latitude line will be destroyed with surface-to-surface missiles. They know the range of these missiles: they can destroy any U.S. warship inside the gulf. [applause and cheers]

The United States makes known those states that support it. It is known that the U.S. 6th Fleet, which is thought to be a possible means for carrying out an aggression on the Libyan people, depends upon bases in southern Europe. It depends upon bases in Greece, Italy, Spain, and perhaps France; this is in addition to bases in Arab states around us. This is a fact. These countries must understand that if and when the U.S. 6th Fleet carries out an aggression against Libya, it will be compelled to deprive the U.S. 6th Fleet of its supplies and dependence upon those bases by acting against them. This will be regarded as self-defense according to UN Charter Article 51. [applause and cheers]

The people of Sicily are against the U.S. bases. [passage indistinct] Great. Here is a person speaking on behalf of the people of Sicily — he is against the U.S. presence in Sicily. The United States is angry because there are no other states in world history that celebrate the expulsion of U.S. forces from their territory except Libya and Vietnam. [applause]

Look at any state in the world where the United States had a presence and has [words indistinct]. What has happened is to the contrary. The states where the United States had no presence now have a United States presence. The United States had no presence in Egypt during Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir's era and now it does have a presence there. As for the other Arab countries where the United States had a presence, it continues to have a presence there today. Other than Libya and Vietnam, there is no other state in the world where U.S. forces were [words indistinct]. You must understand that you are the only people celebrating the expulsion and demolition of U.S. military bases. This has not happened anywhere in the world. The U.S. is angry and is asking itself: How can this [Libyan] people by way of a revolution triumph over the United States and deprive it of the Mediterranean and from the bases overlooking the Mediterranean? The Vietnamese and Libyan peoples are the only peoples who celebrate the expulsion of U.S. forces from their territories.

Even Cuba, despite the bitter fighting against U.S. supporters, and against the Batista regime, still maintains a U.S. military base on its soil. This is one of the reasons explaining U.S. enmity toward us: The United States, with all its arrogance and tyranny, a superpower, why was it ousted from Libya? Why had its bases been so easily undermined? And it was deprived of 2000 kilometers of Mediterranean coast that used to be under its control. Even the Gulf of Sidra.

It was only yesterday that we remembered our borders. It is only now that this distress has been removed from us. We were not free in our own country. I have told you that all of Libya was under the Malta District Control [flight information zone]. And did we use to be aware of the Gulf of Sidra? The Gulf of Sidra was originally under U.S. control. It is only now that we are cognizant of where our borders lie. A part of the Arab homeland has been liberated, and we can at least see the limits of its airspace and territorial waters.

Were we preoccupied with the Gulf of Sidra before? Colonialism was inside our own homes. It is only now that we have remembered where our territorial waters, our borders, and vital interests lie. The Gulf of Sidra is not something new. They think so, but it is not new. A country, a people has been liberated, and it searches for the limits of its [word indistinct].

Concerning Chad, the international position clearly sides with Libya. You see, France, a European state across the Mediterranean, enters Chad, which is in Africa, in the heart of Africa. France considers this action as its duty. What is strange is that the French Government says that by such an action it wins over public opinion. This would mean that the French people wants its sons to fight in Chad, thus discharging their duties! Well, in such a case what are the duties of the sons of the Libyan people?

If France says that its sons have to fight in Chad do we hear a Libyan say: No, it is not our duty to fight in Chad? Libya is in a better position to fight because is Chad not an extension of Libya, rather than extension of France? If it is a matter of treaties, I have a file here concerning them. When Goukouni was in power, we had a mutual defense treaty with him while France has no mutual defense treaty with any of the Chadian governments. France is taking a pure colonialist action.

Anyone fighting the Libyan people, and through it the Arab nation, the challenge of the Arab nation, the influence of the

Arab nation, [word indistinct] of the Arab nation [word indistinct], they must be hit and nipped in the bud on Libyan territory, whether from the Gulf of Sidra or from Chad. This is the question.

Despite this, and our commitment for the full support of Chad's transitional government of National Unity and the Frolinat insurgents, it is not our intention as we have repeatedly affirmed to the world, to enter with our aircraft and tanks to fight in Chad. If France fights it will lose. Let it bring its aircraft and troops, and enter the Chadian Sahara. They will be fought by the Chadian insurgents, not by the Libyan Army. We have pledged before the world that the Libyan forces will not enter in the Chadian war. But with all insolence they brought their forces into Chad. Let them try; let them fight with the Ndjamena government against the national government; fight with the Chadian Government against the Chadian people, fight with Chadian agents against the Chadian insurgents, and they would them see the fate of the French forces in Chad. The French people and the world know that Libya does not involve its forces in the war in Chad, but we support the Chadian insurgents. We support the Chadian Government of national unity.

As for France, it supports the Ndjamena government with its military force, and it has decided to fight with its army. The war now is between the French army, and the Ndjamena government which is backed by the French army on the one hand, and the Chadian insurgents on the other. We will see who is victorious!

Furthermore, it has become clear before the world that there is no government in Ndjamena. There are French forces there. At the first battle the French forces returned immediately. This means that there is no government with an army, a people and which can resist. Why did it immediately asked for the help of the French forces? In other words, there is no government in Chad; there is no government in Ndjamena; there are French forces in Ndjamena. Therefore, this government is a myth.

The Ndjamena government is a myth. The government is a French government in Ndjamena. It is like Paris in Ndjamena and France in Chad. It should be made clear. The war now is between the Chad people and the French forces which colonized Chad. The struggle will be in this manner. We support the revolutionaries of Chad. France allegedly says that it supports the government of Ndjamena but it does this through its military force. It is because the French forces have been involved in the war directly. The government says that the French people supports this action, that they support the fighting in Chad. And this is to be put forward to the Libyan people later.

Another gain is that pan-Arab popular congresses have been formed. They are the nucleus of Jamahiri Arab unity on Libyan soil. These will from now on, continue to grow; popular congresses, popular committees, and revolutionary committees will spread in the Arab homeland as they proceed from the base that has now been established in this battle — the battle of confrontation.

One of the most important points that attracted my attention in the resolutions of the popular Arab congresses on Libyan soil was the emphasis on forming more revolutionary Arab committees — both open and clandestine — and that they should become members of the revolutionary green guards. This resolution is extremely important. Arab masses on Libyan soil and with roots extending to all Arab soil, decided to form more revolutionary committees both open and clandestine and to join the revolutionary guard. This action has been put into motion and no one can stop it. The resolutions of the masses have begun. We want to deepen and expand this so that it embraces the Arab homeland.

Another point — joining the pan-Arab command of the revolutionary Arab forces: Here are the members of the basic popular Arab congresses on Libyan soil and here are the masses. They have decided to join the pan-Arab command of revolutionary forces. Up to now the pan-Arab command revolutionary forces were composed of regular groups such as parties and revolutionary movements but now a new impetus has been added to them, namely, the masses. Members of the basic popular Arab congresses have joined the pan-Arab command. The coming meeting of the pan-Arab command of the revolutionary forces will include as participants the basic popular Arab congresses on Libyan soil, and their extensions in the Arab homeland [applause and chants of approval] will be affiliated to the pan-Arab command of the revolutionary forces.

These are very serious consequences resulting from this confrontation in favor of the force fighting against imperialism.

We have seen the fraternization stressed between Libya and all the other nations that used to think of Libya as a nation of terrorists and aggressors and of the Libyan revolution as disliking foreigners. Instead, an international fraternity has been realized in this modern age on Libyan soil. Secretaries of the international popular congresses of all nationalities are together here with their brother secretaries of the popular Arab congresses and with their brother secretaries of the Libyan popular congresses. All gather under a general congress... [interrupted by applause].

There are more serious resolutions in this connection by the pan-Arab congresses, including the opening of ideological camps to absorb the greatest possible number of Arab brothers to work as missionaries in spreading the thesis of the (?third world theory). This is another gain. The Arabs themselves who are on Libyan soil have decided to open camps to learn the new Jamahiri theory so that they can apply it and spread it around. No government can make a decision against it because it takes place on Libyan soil and through the will of the Arab masses on Libyan soil. It will have serious consequences in the future spreading of the Jamahiri theory.

The pan-Arab congresses are the framework under which come all the Arab leagues, federations, and congresses. They are the official party which deals with the quarters concerned. They are another benefit for all the Arab compatriots living on Libyan soil because they are organized, democratic, and deal with the local Libyan sides. This first round of confrontation with the United States and Israel at one and the same time has been realized through these gains and victories, and as such we must not be complacent, letting victory make us lower our guard at this stage. We must always remain alert. We must meet challenge with challenge and always be wary with our fingers on the trigger, intensifying our confrontation's effectiveness at all levels.

Among the steps which caused this confrontation, made it come sooner, and proved it necessary is the great action that I consider one of the most important actions in the modern age of the Arab nation, namely, the unity action for the future. We regard the action that is taking place now after accomplishing the Arab-African Union between Libya and Algiera — as among the most important actions in the stage which concerns the unity of the Arab nation. [applause] [this was discussed] During the meeting at Ain Amenas with President Benjedid and the popular Algerian leaderships. [It is most important] following the development of the Algerian charter, which was approved by the Algerian people, as this charter declares openly and insists on the rise of Arab unity from integrationist form into an amalgamationist form. Anyone who applies an amalgamationist or integrationist unity is backed by the Algerian people because the Algerian people are the ones who approved these words.

The Algerian people wrote in the National Charter the need for the establishment of unity in this century, from integration to amalgamation. On this basis, unity between the two countries will be submitted to people's congresses in Libya and the Algerian people in the next few months. This is one of the most important actions in modern times regarding Arab unity, because it brings together two important forces: Libya and Algeria, two effective, progressive forces in North Africa. It will unite the western wing of the Arab homeland and will integrate with the African-Arab Union between Libya and Morocco. The unity of territory will give it a strength that will distinguish it from unity between any other Arab country and Libya. Libyan and Algerian territories are one Arab territory, an extension of each other. Therefore, there is no geographical problem as there is between Libya and Morocco and Libya and Syria, or between Egypt and Syria. It will be one of the most important historical acts that will change the map of the Arab homeland in this century, if federation or any form of true unity is established between Libya and Algeria in the next few months.

Moreover, Syria is prepared to begin unity action to implement the unity plan signed by the Libyan and Syrian people on the 11th anniversary of the Al-Fatih Revolution, and to develop the federation of Arab republics. If good intention prevails between the two sides, the Libyan and Algerian sides, and unity work between the two countries is approved, I am convinced that a new stage will have begun for the Arab nation.

The solutions to all the problems — those of oil, education, health, culture, science, scientific research, backwardness, housing, communications — all these can only be solved by unity. Therefore, what troubles you is not internal Libyan problems; we believe that Libyans will face no problems worth mentioning. Nor is it international problems, because there is a specific line between us and the United States and our Arab cause [words indistinct]. If the United States comes to us we will be with it. There is no conflict between us on the Atlantic Ocean, nuclear missiles and so forth. The problem is peripheral, not internal. The problem remains a pan-Arab one. Serious attention must be given to changing the Arab map in any way. Praise be to God, after a dialogue of 17 years with the Algerian revolution we have reached an agreement on some form of unity. The truth is that the dialogue between us was about unity, because there is either unity or conflict.

I believe that each of the two countries welcomes shouldering its responsibilities. [words indistinct] the speech given by the deputy speaker of the Algerian National People's Assembly who attended the General People's Congress. This brother expressed Algeria's sincere unionist tendencies and its standing [applause]. Despite everything, it is well known what Algeria did when the truth came and there was confrontation — unlike the government of the fascist of Baghdad which took advantage of the opportunity and doubled its anti-Libyan people radio stations. Algeria openly announced to the United States and the whole world that, without argument, if Libya was attacked, Algeria had to be taken into account.

There is a delegation from Yemen, the Yemen Arab Republic, whom you have not yet heard, and we are thankful for their presence. There [words indistinct] another Jamahiriyah in the Arab south, where there is something called the General People's Congress in Sanaa. Its membership has doubled and is numbered in the thousands. This is clearly the beginning of the birth of a Jamahiriyah in North Yemen [applause]. Therefore, [words indistinct] the head of the Yemeni delegation and they have understood the Third Universal Theory and the Jamahiriyah theory. We are very thankful for the sentiments of the Malian youth and people during my visit. They came out to welcome me. In fact they were not welcoming me but the Libyan people.

Malta is a country that I do not consider foreign as far as we are concerned. The natural and [word indistinct] thing that blend in with the nature of Arab-Maltese relations is the removal of many restrictions and considerations which existed between the two countries. Now, a Maltese can work in Libya in the same way as a Libyan; he can be admitted without a passport and own property in Libya. The Libyan has the same rights in Malta. He can own property and enter without a passport. This is a great step that will consolidate peace in the Mediterranean, consolidate fraternity and the solidarity of the Mediterranean peoples.

In fact all of these achievements work against imperialism and against Zionism, against the United States and against the Israelis. We must move all Arab potentials in every way to bring them to effective action regarding the Zionist entity. The Arab rulers must understand that we, the revolutionaries of the Arab nation and we the Arab masses, will not be silent for long toward their slumber. The Arab rulers all have to understand that we the revolutionaries and the masses are losing our patience and will not go along with them much longer in their hestitation, negligence and their parting with thinking and working toward the future of the Arab nation. If they think about the future of the Arab nation, the Arab nation is capable of removing them and deciding its future by itself. This is possible and we are agitating for it to the exception of anything else. We have the material means and material capabilities, and we are obliged to defend the future of the Arab nation, to exploit it and mobilize it in the direction of unity and liberation. The Arab nation will remain under neither the U.S. insolence nor under the Israeli infleunce. Our God did not create us to live continuously under U.S. and Israeli terrorism.

The Israeli entity must be removed at whatever price. Its removal is not a big problem, and if the U.S. risks involvement in a third world war then our slogan will be: On me and on my enemies, O God, and it will not matter. We as a nation are exercising our right to live. Now and while we are celebrating the 9th anniversary of the founding of the Jamahiriyah and the declaration of the people's authority, we celebrate while we are stronger materially and morally. With us now are the secretaries of the Arab basic people's congresses. This means that the pan-Arab people's congresses have been born in the Arab arena and have affirmed the need for revolutionary education with the new theory of the popular masses and the need to spread people's committees, overtly and covertly, in the Arab world and the spread of the people's congresses in the Arab world.

The secretaries of the international people's congresses now affirm the solidarity of all peoples with us. This confirms that the Jamahiriyah is indeed an international model and example and is the land of all the masses and an international focal point. This is, in fact, a great historic burden. You are leading the Arab revolutionary forces :and leading the Arab people's congresses which have joined the pan-Arab leadership and became part of it. You have become an international meeting point for all peoples.

Look at this poor land and the small people who are being awarded all of these distinctions and this honor and who are shouldering this heavy burden. However, this makes us feel our greatness and our power. If France is colonizing Chad, Central Africa, Gabon, and the Ivory Coast — the French-speaking countries — to create out of them an international power to face Europe and America, and if the United States is building bases and acquiring colonies and spheres of influence in order to create weight before the world and before the Soviet Union, and if the Soviet Union itself in the general congress of the Communist Party calls for the creation of Soviet power with the socialist community and the Warsaw Pact, here in the Jamahiriyah — and not through an imperialist or colonialist action nor through might but through the people's democracy, the theory of salvation and emancipation — we have become a new power in the world connected to the masses, connected to the peoples within which enthusiasm has erupted after seeing their emancipation. The masses danced on Libyan soil after realizing that there is no police, no army, no party, no class, no ruler and no executioner looming over them. The historic joy, which was suppressed, began to manifst itself on Libyan territory. It was a great thing. The Arabs, on Arab soil, danced with delight because they did not expect to see that. The Europeans were saying to hell with America, but they could not say that in their own countries or they would be trampled by horses' hooves. You have seen that in Britain where they have been trampled by horses. They said we were expressing their feelings for them, and that is why the United States got angry and threatening. [Words indistinct] however, our stand is consistent. [Words indistinct] it got angry because a new polarization has emerged, a popular polarization this time and not by the power of missiles or by military-economic power. It is the camp of the masses, which the United Nations and others failed to establish. it is a new United Nations on Libyan soil.

After this short speech [audience laughter] naturally, it could have been much longer. It was an honour for me to stand before the General People's Congress and the Pan-Arab General Congress and the General International Congress at this joint session of the three congresses which forms a people's congress for all the Arab Libyan and international peoples. Thanks to God, we have celebrated the 9th anniversary of the founding of the Jamahiriyah without any setback to the people's authority and without any frustration to our masses. No one has deviated from the principles and the loyalty to the masses. Even those who tried to betray the people's authority have not succeeded. The few attempts have died in the cradle. We have passed the test — the test of our revolutionary ethics and our loyalty to the popular masses. There were some who said that this is merely a demagogic attempt designed to win over the sympathy of the masses, that it was propaganda and will not continue. Even some Libyan skeptics claimed that these were not people's congresses and not a people's authority [words indistinct] and it is impossible; you will not be able to issue a law or a decree or a budget. They will seek a pretext to proclaim a revolutionary government and to declare a revolutionary authority, using all of these terms to restore power to themselves again and will not arm you.

It has become clear that the leadership of the revolution has joined the masses in opposing anyone who is not serious. We will chase everyone who does not carry arms or who does not quickly train for arms or who does not practice authority. They said it was illogical for the people to practice politics.

Thank God, after 9 years of serious work, the Jamahiriyah is acquiring more firmness and its root going deeper; our people are gaining confidence in themselves day after day. And now the effects have started to show on the Arab scene. The masses have begun to revive the feeling that the people's revolution leads to the elimination of all tyrants and idols and pressures practiced against Arab citizens who have allowed a handful of Israelis to dominate. This was because the Arab people were chained. The masses have begun to feel the revival and to feel they are capable of rebelling against the American bases.

Before this Jamahiri action which emerged from the Libyan land, and even in Europe, the people had no thought of opposing America. See how such a thought is now escalating. Demonstrations and actions are increasing. The greens have emerged; revolutionary committees have emerged. All this is thanks to your influence. [words indistinct] neither the missile nor [word indistinct] have any effect. Where is the Nazi power? Where is the fascist power? Where are the Moguls? Where are the Tartars? Where is Genghis Khan, Alexander the Great, and others? On the other hand the theory of Jean-Jacques Rousseau is there and is immortal. Plato's thoughts are immortal. Ibn Sina or Abu Bakr al-Asam or the Ghozali — all those who came out with thoughts and ideas — their thoughts are immortal. Religions which are based on justice have no missiles or anything else — that is to say, Jesus died when he was 32 years old and was raised to heaven by God. They tried to execute him but he left behind 70 of his close associates. Now half the world believes in the religion of Jesus. They do not believe in missiles or in atomic bombs — on the contrary They are now in a dilemma with these missiles and atomic bombs because they do not know how to destroy such weapons; they have to continue to maintain them and develop them. They are living in torture. Victory is for the just theories — the popular theories. We do not create power; we do not create chemistry or the atom or terrorism. We want to restore the humanity of man which has been crushed everywhere. Everyone should understand that the future is with this theory which will be adopted by all the people of the world sooner or later. Forward, and the struggle continues! [applause and prolonged cheers]

Telegram Sent to Al-Qadhdhafi

LD032123 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1729 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Telegram addressed to Colonel Mu'ammar Al-Qadhdhafi from members of the International General People's Congress at Qaryunis University in Banghazi read in English — live]

[Text] [Unidentified speaker] The telegram to the leader of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi: Greetings of the Great Al-Fatih, to the thinker, the teacher and the philosopher of the revolution, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the era of (?masses). [applause]

We, the members of the International People's General Congress, at our meeting in Banghazi on the occasion of the 11th regular session of the General People's Congress, convey our love, respect and appreciation to your unending efforts for the betterment of Jamahiriyah and of all world. [applause and chants]

We assure you of our solidarity and support in your just and legitimate fight against the imperialist and Zionist enemies. We assure you our staunch belief in the ideology of the Green Book in its three parts and regard it as the only solution to the problem facing mankind. We implore you, as our leader, in the light of your green ideology, which proclaims peace and happiness to all the people of the world, to stick to your strategy until humanity gains victory over all its enemies.

International People's General Congress. [applause]

Congress Concludes 7-Day Session

LD040043 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0015 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] The General People's Congress concluded last evening the meetings of its 11th regular session in Qaryunis University in Banghazi. The session continued for 7 days during which the congress formulated the resolutions of the Basic People's Congresses, the Pan-Arab Basic Congresses and the International Basic Congresses.

The congress held its evening session, at the beginning of which the resolutions of the Pan-Arab Basic Congresses, which were formulated by the General Pan-Arab Congress, were read.

Denial of Recruiting Djibouti Citizens To Fight

LD041527 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1430 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, 4 Mar (JANA) — A spokesman at the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison has made the following statement:

The French defense minister has told Djibouti television that the Jamahiriyah is recruiting citizens from that country (Djibouti) to fight in Chad. The statements by French officials in this context are dictated by some specific factors, which are linked to the French involvement in Chad. They are as follows:

1. France is seeking justification for its intervention in Chad, which confirms its colonial ambitions in Africa, particularly in Chad;
2. The French defense minister can base his allegations only on some false justification, after the French policies have been exposed and the French intervention in Chad has been condemned by most African states;
3. France is the last country that can talk about Chad, because the Chadian problem is an African problem; the framework of its solution should be African with an African will, with the efforts of the sons of the continent; and a European country like France has nothing to do with this problem;
4. The French Government is seeking a pretext to expoit in order to resolve domestic political problems at a crucial stage in the elections;
5. The Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah has previously denied such rumors, and today it confirms that it has recruited no citizens from Djibouti or from elsewhere, contrary to allegations by French officials seeking to cover up French military and colonial involvement in Chad.

ETHIOPIA

Commentary Notes Coming SACTU Anniversary

EA041159 Addis Ababa Radio Freedom in English to South Africa 1930 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Station commentary entitled "Forward With The Anniversary of SACTU [South African Council of Trade Unions]"]

[Text] Compatriots, this Wednesday we shall be marking the 31st anniversary of the SACTU. We shall be marking this important day in the lives of the workers of our country under a completely different atmosphere than when the congress was formed during the period of the roaring [word indistinct] fifties. [as heard] Today, we, the working class, have survived all the regime's attempts to force us into submission. We have forced the enemy to recognize our democratic trade union and also because of our growing strength and our determination to fight on, we have compelled the bosses to come down and negotiate with our true representatives.

Gone are the days when we were still being forced to register before we could negotiate. Gone also are the days when the bosses could always close their doors when we go on strike claiming that our actions were illegal. Today, despite the (?tight net) of the repressive apartheid laws together with the repressive state machinery we are in a position to force the bosses and the racists to listen and bow to our demands. Thirty-one years after the formation of SACTU we have become a force to reckon with. At the same time we are marking SACTU's 31st anniversary when our country is going through the flames of the revolution. The whole oppressed and democratic community is up in arms against the monstrous racist regime. It is therefore very important for the working class, as the vanguard of the national liberation revolution, to take its rightful place in the front ranks of this daily struggle.

Workers have to strengthen and unite their trade union movement and to sharpen the weapon of workers' power at the point of production in the struggle for national liberation. At this time of fierce street battles when thousands of our people are busy organizing themselves into underground cells of the ANC and making plans of obtaining modern weapons of war from all available sources, it is the main task of the working class as a vanguard to take a leading position in this campaign.

In our places of employment let us find ways of forming underground cells. The question of economic sabotage still remains one of our priorities. It is this work which we do that keeps the apartheid system on its feet. It is the weapons that workers at places like Armsscor that are used to mow down our people. [sentence as heard] Our black people are what has made this country to be what it is today. As comrade Winnie Mandela always says: We, the black workers, are the power in this country. With our black (?hands), we can bring this country down to its knees. Now at this time of revolutionary turmoil it is vital for us, as workers, to use that power and rid our country of this scourge of apartheid.

This call is not confined to the factory floor but it applies also the Boer farms where millions of our compatriots are working under slave conditions. Farm workers must find ways of sabotaging the production process. Our products in the farms like outspan oranges, grapes and other products which are tinned and exported add a lot on earning the regime the much-needed foreign exchange. So the sabotage campaign must be felt also in this industry.

As the leading force of the liberation struggle we cannot but take a full part in the political battles of the oppressed community, otherwise the very same political battles that we wage in the streets of our residential areas affect workers equally as the rest of the community. It is therefore very important to dismiss with the contempt it deserves the argument that as workers we must only confine our activities to the factory floor battle. In our embattled country, the right place of all democratic trade unions and all workers is in the front ranks of the struggles against the apartheid system. It is with this in mind that we reject in toto the reactionary argument used by Gatsha Buthelezi and his confused followers that trade unions must remain outside the arena of political struggle.

Fellow countrymen, it is important also here to note the importance of COSATU [Congress of South African Trade Unions] in the trade union struggle. Without the unity that COSATU represents there can be no victory for the working class and therefore, no victory for the oppressed community.

We, therefore, as workers in particular and the oppressed community in general have to do everything in our power to defend this unity. (?We must) call upon all the democratic trade unions which remain outside COSATU when it was formed 3 months ago to facilitate their coming into this mainstream of workers' unity. We are convinced of the maturity and honesty of both their leaders and members. Accordingly, we are certain that at this critical moment in the history of (?the entire people's movement) they will find a way to overcome all obstacles that bar their way to join COSATU.

The trade union movement also is still facing other more demanding tasks whose fulfillment will fashion our movement into the instrument of working class and national liberation which the founders of COSATU (?underlined) at the founding conference in Durban. First and foremost is the transformation of general unions into industrial unions. Without the fulfillment of this task it will be almost impossible to ensure the solid unity in action of the working class. Our call "one industry, one union" means one thing and one thing only: that all workers within a particular industry irrespective of the location and the company must belong to one union. In this way it will be easier to launch united action against the exploiters and force them to bow to our demands. This is the only way of ensuring worker solidarity.

There is also the issue of the organization of the unorganized workers and the unemployed. At this time when we have (?recently) formed a united national federation millions of workers in our country still remain unorganized. We cannot allow this situation to continue any longer. For us to march forward to victory it is essential that all these workers be organized into trade unions of a democratic nature. The ever-growing number of the unemployed under apartheid also raises the question of the organization of this section of the working class. There is absolutely no obstacle too formidable that can prevent us achieving this goal. So, all these workers must be organized wherever they are. They must be organized into a united force ready to confront the oppressor and exploiter now. So as we mark the anniversary of SACTU, we must bear in mind that the name, SACTU, has over these 31 years acquired the same meaning as: organization, unity and [word indistinct]. So its anniversary must also be marked in a fitting manner. Forward with workers' unity. Long live SACTU. An injury to one is an injury to all.

SUDAN

SPLA-SPLM Radio Reports Communique Signed 4 Mar

EA041911 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in Arabic 1330 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Joint communique issued on 4 March by the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement-Sudanese People's Liberation Army and the (?FUNIYA) socialist organization and (?FUNIYA) forces; read by Captain John Maker Benjamin]

[Text] The joint communique of the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement-Sudanese People's Liberation Army [SPLM-SPLA] and the (?FUNIYA) Socialist Organization and the (?FUNIYA) forces.

Within the framework of the efforts to find solutions to the Sudanese problem; the liberation of Sudan; its reconstruction as a modern and politically, economically and socially stable state; the achievement of forming a Sudanese nation; elimination of all obstructing factors to forming such a nation, such as cultural, racial, religious [word indistinct] and tribal factors; and an imbalanced development of the different regions of Sudan, the SPLM-SPLA, led by Major Arok Thuon Arok, member of the High Command of the SPLA and commander of the forces of Upper Nile and Equatoria administrative region, in the presence of Captain Daniel Kodi Angelo, Comrade Muhammad Harun Kafi and the (?FUNIYA) Socialist Organization led by Mahmud Jumah Yusuf, head of the organization and commander in chief of the (?FUNIYA) forces in the presence of Mr Abd al-Karim Abdullah Ibrahim, Abu Abdullah Harun and Abdullah Adam Ali, held continuous meetings at the SPLA headquarters during early March until 4 March 1986. The meeting adopted the following principles and convictions:

The movement and the organization reiterate their commitments to the basic and common principles of the inevitability of the unity of Sudan, both the people and the territory.

The meeting saluted the struggle of Western Sudan, Darfur and Kurdufan and their manifest role in the achievement of Sudanese independence and vigilance over its security. The achievement of justice and equality in Sudan ranks as an important priority of the movement and the organization. They both believe that the armed struggle is the most effective means of achieving them, side by side with the political struggle. Support for the march of the struggle and the hastening of its steps requires the concerted efforts of all the patriotic and sincere forces, who are solicitous about the construction of a modern, stable and progressive Sudan. There is need for coordination and cooperation at the strategic level, both militarily and politically.

The meeting agreed that the movement's handling of the Sudanese problem and its proposed solutions are the most ideal proposals and best solutions on the basis of those convictions and principles agreed by the meeting, which should be considered as basic fundamentals. It is on such a basis that the movement confirmed the legitimacy and credibility of the struggle and the fight of the (?FUNIYA) socialist organization and its forces. The movement is committed to its support, both politically and militarily.

The movement considers the visit of the (?FUNIYA) Socialist Organization, at this time in particular, just before the period of its transfer [as heard] as an indication of the failure of the minority regime in Khartoum and the loss of its credibility, which had caused further frustration in the political arena of Sudan.

The movement and the organization adhere to their appraisal and viewpoints concerning the minority regime in Khartoum as a tool for the implementation of coercive colonialist designs.

The minority regime in Khartoum is pursuing different approaches to continue its monopoly of power and hegemony so as to serve its colonialist objectives, including the distribution of political roles in the form of different slogans among traditional entities. These are well-known approaches, and consequently the movement and the organization will not waste time on combatting them.

The meeting believes in the independent moves of both the movement and the organization. The two sides recognize each other. They stress their commitment to the strategic agreement, politically and militarily, within the framework of coordination and cooperation of the common struggle.

The movement and the organization appeal to all sincere revolutionary forces which are concerned with liberating Sudan to emulate the (?FUNIYA) Socialist Organization and their forces in support of the march of the national struggle. The movement reiterates its commitment to support and back such revolutionary forces.

Finally, the movement and the organization salute the struggle of the Sudanese people. Glory and immortality to the Sudanese revolutionaries. Long live Sudan, united in its people and territory. Down for ever with the minority regime in Khartoum.

Signed on behalf of the SPLM-SPLA: Maj Arok Thuon Arok, member of the High Command of the SPLA and commander of the forces of Upper Nile and Equatoria administrative regions.

Signed on behalf of the (?FUNIYA) Socialist Organization and (?FUNIYA) forces: Mr Mahmud Jumah Yusuf, head of the organization and commander in chief of the (?FUNIYA) forces.

Written Tuesday 4 March 1986.

UGANDA

Penne Conveys French Desire for Normal Relations
PM041657 Paris LE MONDE in French 4 Mar 86 p 4

[Jacques de Barrin dispatch: "Paris Wants To Restore Normal Relations with Kampala"]

[Excerpt] Nairobi — Guy Penne, adviser to the president of the Republic for African affairs, was received in Entebbe on Saturday 1 March by Yoweri Museveni, the new Ugandan head of state, to whom he handed a written message from Francois Mitterrand. The last visit to this former British protectorate by a high-ranking official — Jean Francois-Poncet, who was then secretary of state forforeign affairs — was back in the early seventies, in Idi Amin Dada's day.

During this meeting, which lasted 90 minutes, Mr Musaveni expressed the hope that France will defend Uganda's interests in international bodies like the EEC or the Paris Club. He asked about the situation in Chad and the role he might play in restoring peace there. Mr Penne expressed Paris' desire to resume normal relations with Kampala and said requests for economic aid submitted to it will be studied in a favorable light.

Nairobi Daily Reports Army Heading for Gulu Town
EA041115 Nairobi THE STANDARD in English 4 Mar 86 p 1

[Correspondent Henry Gombya: "NRA Heads for Gulu"]

[Text] Lira, Monday: The National Resistance Army [NRA] has captured Kamudini Corner, 61 km south of Gulu, where former chief of the defence forces, Lt-Gen Basilio Olara Okello, is said to be still holding out. The capture of Kamudini Corner follows last week's capture of Lira town by the NRA after heavy fighting with troops still loyal to Basilio.

The NRA forces in the western war zone have now linked up with those from the eastern axis that captured Lira, Soroti and Mbale. A senior military officer of the NRA told me that Gulu might fall within this week. Kamudini Corner, where the northern road meets the eastern road, was taken without a bullet being fired. The fleeing soldiers were said to have fled direct to Gulu and Kitgum after being flushed out of Lira.

Lira town is so much ransacked that it passes for a ghost town. Even after its takeover, by the NRA, the residents were still scared of returning to their homes. By the time I Left Lira on Sunday morning only 15 people had plucked up courage to leave the safety of their bush hide-outs to check their homes.

Lira, the home town of Dr Milton Obote, has suffered more than any other town in Uganda. The town was looted clean. Shops are standing wide open. The hospital was completely sacked and there is no sign of life at all apart from the NRA soldiers who patrol the area. I spent Saturday night alone at the police barracks, which have been deserted since the fall of Kampala to the NRA in January.

The 15 civilians who braved Lira on Saturday said the town had been deserted since Basilio and Gen Tito Okello overthrew the civilian government of President Milton Obote last July. They said when Basilio forces went to Lira before the capture of Kampala on 27th July, they killed about 200 civilians. The Langi were accused of having been the beneficiaries of Obote's rule since independence in 1962. When Kampala fell to the NRA in January, the few remaining Langi in Lira, including the police force, immediately bolted from the town.

According to the civilians I talked to, when the fleeing soldiers reached Lira, they told the few remaining residents that they were going to make Lira their last stronghold. "They told us that they would fight to the last man here and vowed to destroy Lira before the NRA arrived". He [as published] added that since January no-one could dare go to Lira because the soldiers who had camped at the Lira spinning mill were shooting anybody they could see moving around.

The Basilio Okello soldiers have changed their name from the Uganda National Liberation Army to the Uganda National Forces (UNF). The NRA battle for Lira against the UNF started on Wednesday morning. The UNF began by shelling NRA positions. "We simply ignored them. The shelling did not stop until late in the day. Then it started again very early in the morning of Thursday, until we moved in after sighting them", said Matiya Kayaligonza, the brigade commander in charge of the forces of the eastern zone. According to the bishop of Lango, the RT Rev Ceasar Asili, thousands of Basilio soldiers fled on Thursday morning for Kitgum, north-east of Lira. "After the end of the shelling on Thursday, I saw thousands of these soldiers fleeing on foot and in trucks towards Kitgum". A church service was held in Lira on Sunday, the first of its kind for more than six months. Bishop Asili said even though the people of Lira had lost all their property God should be thanked for sparing ther lives.

According to the overall field commander, Mr Salim Saleh, who accompanied pressmen to Lira, the people there suffered as much as those in the Luwero triangle. "Apart from what I saw in Luwero, I have never seen a town as devastated as Lira", said Salim Saleh. Asked whether the NRA could find problems in capturing Gulu, Salim Saleh said he did not think so, adding that it was most likely that the fleeing soldiers were regrouping in Kitgum, the home town of Basilio and Tito Okello. "Whether they mount a strong resistance, we are determined to crash them once and for all", he said.

AFP: Former MP Killed by NRA Soldier
AB041733 Paris AFP in English 1713 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Kampala, March 4 (AFP) — A former government member of Parliament under the ousted regime of Milton Obote, Rugadya Tundulu Israel, has been killed in Hoima District, more than 160 km (100 miles) northwest of here, by an officer of the new Uganda Army, Uganda Radio reported Tuesday.

The ex-MP was killed by Peter Rwamakuga, a commander of the National Resistance Army (NRA) in the area, the radio said, quoting Minister of State for Defense Ronald Bata.

Mr Bata said the accused would be tried in a court of law after police investigations into the killing are concluded, the radio said.

It did not say exactly where the ex-MP was killed, or disclose where the alleged killer was being held.

The radio added that there had been a series of shootings in the Kampala area last week, in which one person was killed in the eastern suburbs, and reported an appeal by the minister that every person witnessing incidents of indiscipline by soldiers or other people should report to the authorities immediately so that the culprits can be arrested.

The NRA has so far earned top marks for its discipline and its attempts to improve security in this long-troubled East African country in its guerrilla war against previous regimes and since it captured Kampala at the end of January.

It is noteworthy, however, that the state-controlled radio has reported the killing by a government army officer before even the independent press. Previous regimes would wait until news of killings had appeared in the papers, and even then sometimes deny that they are the work of their own soldiers, choosing rather to blame atrocities on insurgents.

CHAD

Fighting Resumes in Oum Chalouba-Kalait Region

AB051414 Paris AFP in French 1405 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] Ndjamena, 5 Mar (AFP) — Fighting between the Chadian Government forces and the forces of the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT), armed opposition to President Habre, (?resumed) in the region of Oum Chalouba-Kalait (north Chad), a Chadian military source in Ndjamena announced.

According to the source, the fighting began at 1300 local time [1200 GMT] at 18 km from Kalait on the road to Fada, one of the strongholds of President Hissein Habre's opponents in the northeast of Chad.

GUNT Confirms Resumption of Fighting

AB051555 Paris AFP in French 1516 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] Paris, 5 Mar (AFP) — The Transitional National Union Government (GUNT) confirmed in Paris Wednesday afternoon that fighting has resumed in Chad in the Oum Chalouba-Kalait area, stating that elements of the Ndjamena forces had attacked a patrol of the National Liberation Army (ANL).

Abderrahman Moussa, GUNT representative in Paris, told AFP that "our forces counterattacked and chased away the enemy. Our forces control the whole region of Oum Chalouba-Kalait. Fighting continues."

Government Forces Gain Advantage

AB051730 Paris AFP in French 1615 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] Ndjamena, 5 Mar (AFP) — The Chadian Government forces have taken the advantage over their adversaries of the GUNT in the fighting between them, which began early Wednesday afternoon in the Oum Chalouba-Kalait region, and are carrying out a counterattack on the main roads between Oum Chalouba-Fada and Oum Chalouba-Faya Largeau, it was announced on Wednesday afternoon by a Chadian military source.

The fighting, it is confirmed by a Western diplomatic source, took place 18 kilometers from Kalait (northern Chad) and is continuing along a 10-kilometer front. At the same time, intensive activity was under way at Ndjamena airport. French Mirage F-1 and Jaguar aircraft were taking off successively. Since 1615, eight Jaguars have taken off as well as two Mirage F-1's, without any details from French sources on the purpose of their mission.

Fighting Reportedly Ends

AB051754 Paris AFP in French 1726 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] Ndjamena, 5 Mar (AFP) — The fighting that broke out Wednesday between Chadian Government troops and Goukouni Oueddei's GUNT forces in the Oum Chalouba-Kalait area (northern Chad) ended late this afternoon, it was announced in Ndjamena by Chadian military sources.

According to these sources, a victorious counteroffensive by President Hissein Habre's Chadian National Armed Forces (FANT) was conducted up to 60 km northwest of Oum Chalouba-Kalait on the road to Faya Largeau and up to 40 km on the road that leads to Fada. It should be recalled that these two towns are the major bases for the GUNT forces, supported by Libya in northern Chad.

Wednesday's fighting began at about 1300 [1200 GMT] at about 18 km north of Kalait.

Envoy to France Condemns GUNT, Libyan Support

AB041712 Paris AFP in French 1516 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Paris, 4 Mar (AFP) — Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's numerous declarations and his "Goukouni-supporting puppets" who are against the countries that are friends of Chad are only a "fantasy" of the Libyan leader, designed as a pretext for his "aggression" against Chad, Mr Ahmad Allam-Mi, the Chadian ambassador in Paris, affirmed on Thursday in a statement to AFP. [sentence as received]

The military aid to Mr Hissein Habre's legal government, said the ambassador, is capable of contributing to the return of peace in Chad "because the Libyan regime understands only the language of force." "To call for a national reconciliation, which already has been largely achieved without condemning the aggression but rather a vilification at the OAU or elsewhere of the countries that are friends of Chad amount to "hypocrisy" and "an encouragement to Al-Qadhdhafi in his invasion of a small country and people who only desire to live in peace," affirmed Allam-Mi.

He hoped that "a stop will be put to the complacency of some states with regard to the Libyan aggression and to the automatic adoption of stands against the friends of Chad in the name of a so-called Third World and revolutionary principle." The ambassador affirmed that the GUNT (Transitional National Union Government) is short of manpower after the recent fighting and "no longer has anything to negotiate." This is why Libya is "hunting for Negroes, be they Chadians, Libyans, or others, in order to try to set up a so-called National Liberation Army" (ANL).

Mr Allam-Mi finally stressed that the Ndjamena Government has never stopped calling for a dialogue between the Chadians — be it Goukouni Oueddei or the others — in order to organize their return to the country so that they may help to defend the nation that is threatened with partition owing to the occupation of the north of the country by the Libyan Army and with their benediction. [sentence as received]

ZAIRE

Government To Undertake New Economic Program

AB041539 Paris AFP in French 1351 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Kinshasa, 4 March (AFP) — As of next April, Zaire will undertake a new 22-month economic and financial program supported by an IMF confirmation agreement as well as by the resources originating from the trust fund, AZAP, the official news agency, has reported.

The same source, which quoted Mr Ramazani Baya, Zaire's information minister and government spokesman, specified that in view of the objectives of the program the country has committed itself to reduce the rate of inflation, improve the balance of payments position in order to reduce the pressures on the foreign exchange market, and achieve a 4-percent growth rate.

According to Mr Ramazani, "rigorous management is necessary in order to consolidate the achievements made during the 3 years of the stabilization program" thanks to the help of the IMF, a program that has been implemented up to 31 December 1985.

BURKINA FASO

Economic Community Committees Conclude Talks

AB041746 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The deliberations of the 35th session of the experts committees of the West African Economic Community [CEAO] ended in Ouagadougou this morning, a session the importance of which was pointed out at the opening ceremony by Damo Barro Justin, Burkinabe minister of financial resources and current chairman of the CEAO Council of Ministers, and Mohamed Abdallahi Ould Mohamed Ahmed, deputy secretary general of the Community.

The delegates of the seven members were expected to find out the ways and means to enable the state members to safeguard, strengthen,and consolidate the gains of the Community. During the week the experts examined the various technical items on the agenda of the meeting and also tried to find out new means to secure financial support of the Community Development Fund, which can no longer satisfy the development ambitions of members. The conclusions of this 35th session will be submitted to the 22d Council of Ministers to open 17 March, 1986. Due to the quality of the work done by the experts, it can be said that the task awaiting the ministers is no more difficult.

GHANA

Joint Commission With Bulgaria Begins Third Session

AB041225 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] The third session of the Ghana-Bulgaria Joint Commission for Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation begins at Accra today. It will discuss, among other issues, commodity lists that are to be exchanged between the two countries.

The nine-member Bulgarian team to the session is led by a minister of state, Professor Ivan Sakarev. He told newsmen on arrival in Accra that the session will discuss three main issues. These are technological facilities for the extension of a $10 million credit to Ghana, the exchange of experts, and the training of Ghanaians in Bulgaria. Prof Sakarev explained that the credit facility will help the country to embark on piggery ventures, maize production, as well developing stone quarries to boost road construction in the country. He noted that there are other areas of economic activities which the two countries can further explore for their mutual benefit.

Fourth Session Opens

AB041547 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] The fourth session of the Ghana-Bulgaria joint commission for economic, scientific, and technical cooperation opened in Accra today with a call by both countries for increased economic cooperation and trade diversification.

In his opening address, Mr Akrasi Sarpong of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] Secretariat asked delegates to address themselves to factors affecting trade expansion and to consider other export products Ghana can offer to broaden the export base. He said the signing of the investment credit agreement in 1983 marked a turning point in Ghana-Bulgaria bilateral relations. These relations were further strengthened by the Bulgarian prime minister's visit to Ghana and subsequent one to Bulgaria by P.V. Obeng, a member of the PNDC. Discussions during the visit were on economic, scientific, and technical cooperation.

Mr Akrasi Sarpong regretted the long delay with the implementation of projects earmarked for the investment credit, but said he is confident that with the goodwill of both sides, problems would be overcome to enable work to start. Specific areas identified to benefit from the investment credit agreement, he explained, are the development of irrigation projects and agriculture, with particular reference to the Assin Manso piggery farm complex and the Mankessim irrigation project, also cooperation in fish (?farms) through the establishment of an ice-making plant at Elmina. Mr Akrasi Sarpong said Ghana will also like to develop its tourist trade and Bulgarian expertise will be welcome. He asked delegates to examine critically the problems militating against the execution of projects and other issues.

Replying, the leader of the Bulgarian delegation, Professor Ivan Sakarev, who is first deputy minister of construction and settlement develoment in that country, said Bulgaria and Ghana have similar objective as far as matters relating to economic cooperation are concerned. He was happy about the successes of the economic recovery program. Professor Sakarev said Bulgaria has worked out a paper for long-term cooperation, and is ready to discuss it with Ghana. He said with the long term in mind, efforts should first be focused on same priority projects. Professor Sakarev expressed his country's interest in gold mining in Ghana. He said Bulgarian experts can make an assessment of all available shafts and then proceed on joint gold exploitation. He also spoke of possible joint ventures in road transport.

The leader of the Ghanaian technical team is Bernard Agbletsa, acting chief director of external trade.

TIMES: Nigerian Reports of Rawlings Remark Untrue

AB041555 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 4 Mar 86

[From the Press Review]

[Text] Writing on misinformation on Ghana, a correspondent of the *GHANAIAN TIMES* refers to recent reports from the Nigerian press that the chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] referred to Nigeria as an agent of imperialism at the OATUU [Organization of African Trade Union Unity] congress in Accra. This, according to him, seems to have poisoned the atmosphere between the two sister countries.

The correspondent recalls that Chairman Rawlings has, in an interview with the correspondent of the *GRAPHIC* on the 27th of last month, denied such a reference to Nigeria, saying: If

Ghanaians had really wanted to call Nigeria names it would have been long ago not now. It would have happened during the early days of the revolution when Nigeria (?stopped) oil supplies, or in early 1983 when over 1 million Ghanaians had to leave Nigeria almost overnight in circumstances of brutality and death, but Ghanaians did not do so because of the importance of maintaining the ties between the two countries and because of maintaining a united front against greater problems and pressures.

In the first of a series of articles, the *TIMES* correspondent recalls many such misleading reports on Ghana over the past few years in the Nigerian press.

IVORY COAST

Houphouet-Boigny To Convene Political Bureau

AB040941 Abidjan Domestic Service in French
0745 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] The head of state returned to Abidjan yesterday after spending 2 weeks in Europe where he participated in the first summit conference of French-speaking countries held in France on 17-19 February. Ivorians came out in numbers yesterday at Abidjan's Port Bouet International Airport to welcome their leader as they often do on important occasions. We must first of all rely on ourselves to solve our problems, President Houphouet-Boigny said. A meeting of the Political Bureau will soon be held to examine major decisions to be be made toward the continued development of our country in peace, trust, and solidarity. I invite you to listen to the head of state's statement on his arrival in Abidjan yesterday:

[Begin Houphouet-Boigny recording] Fellow countrymen, I am very happy and proud to be back among you after a short stay in France and Switzerland. During my stay, I held very interesting talks. In view of the complexity of the problems with which we are being confronted more and more often, I am planning to convene a meeting of the Political Bureau in the upcoming days in order to brief it on the bulk of the problems. This will make it possible to deliberate on them and inform the country on the decisions which we will make.

My brothers, as I have always told you, we must rely first of all on ourselves. Let us further strengthen the atmosphere of peace, trust, and solidarity which has already enabled us to advance a bit along the difficult path of progress. Together in trust, faith, and with courage, we must succeed, and we will succeed. [end recording]

LIBERIA

Former Security Officer Held in Ivory Coast

AB041648 Paris AFP in English 1557 GMT
4 Mar 86

[Text] Monrovia, March 4 (AFP) — A former Liberian security officer is being held in neighbouring Ivory Coast in connection with a reported plot to overthrow Liberian president Samuel Doe this month, police director Wilfred Clarke told journalists here on Tuesday.

Mr. Clarke said an anonymous telephone caller to Liberia Ambassador Harold Tarr in Abidjan had said that "about 1,500 well-trained and armed men are planning to stage a coup in Liberia by early March."

The caller, who telephoned between last Friday and Monday, had then arranged a secret meeting with Mr. Tarr to give more information on the plot, Mr. Clarke said.

Mr. Urey, who had been a security officer under deposed President William Tolbert, was arrested by Ivorian authorities at a telephone booth where the anonymous caller had arranged to meet with Ambassador Tarr, he said,

NIGERIA

Senegal's Diouf Makes Stopover, Discusses Chad

AB041643 Dakar PANA in English 1410 GMT
4 Mar 86

[Text] Maiduguri (Nigeria), 4 March (NAN/PANA) — OAU Chairman Abdou Diouf said yesterday in Maiduguri, in Nigeria's Borno State, that the organisation was making positive efforts to end the Chadian crisis.

He told newsmen at Maiduguri Airport during a brief stopover on his way to Addis Ababa, that the Chadian crisis was of great concern to African countries, and that the organisation was seeking a solution to it.

Mr. Diouf, who is also the Senegalese president, said that the continental body had already invited the two warring factions to a peace meeting at a place yet to be announced, adding that foreign interference in the crisis would be resisted.

He also said that the Libyan leader, Col. Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi had been contacted over the issue and the organisation was expecting a favourable response from the Libyan authorities.

President Diouf was met at the airport by the Borno State governor, Maj. Abdulmumini Minu.

NEW NIGERIAN Wants Foreign Troops Out of Chad

AB041110 Lagos Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 4 Mar 86

[From press review]

[Text] The *NEW NIGERIAN* focuses on the renewed fighting in Chad and blames the situation partly on the presence of foreign troops in that country.

The paper believes that the only solution to the conflict is the withdrawal of all foreign troops. Thereafter, all the countries bordering Chad must come together to work out a procedure for bringing the conflict to an end. The *NEW NIGERIAN* believes that Nigeria and Zimbabwe are best fitted to initiate, conduct and jointly chair the deliberations. It wants the watchword for the African peacemakers to be the protection of the right of the Chadian people even if that entails the removal of the two principal actors in the conflict, Hissein Habre and Goukouni Oueddei.

Ministries Developing New Copyright Law

AB041100 Lagos Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Three federal ministries are now working on a new copyright law to protect the intellectual properties of authors and artists. They are those of education, trade and information. In amessage to an exhibition seminar on educational source materialin Lagos yesterday, the minister of education, Professor Jubril Aminu, said that efforts were being made to block all loopholes that were detrimental to book production. He attributed the critical shortages in book production in the country to professional apathy of some Nigerian academics in the universities as well as lack of raw materials.

Professor Aminu urged academics to utilize their respective printing houses in the universities to enhance and accelerate the production of books for Nigerian schools and other institutions of learning.

NAMIBIA

SWAPO Criticizes P.W. Botha Settlement Offer

MB041539 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1530 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] London, March 4, SAPA — SWAPO's West European spokesman, Mr Peter Manning, has accused the South African Government of trying to place responsibility for SWA/Namibia's independence on Angola.

Reacting to an announcement by the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, he told SAPA in London: "It is preposterous that the South African Government is now trying to engineer a scenario where their failure to agree to the implementation of (United Nations) Resolution 435 will be presented as a responsibility of the Angolans, and the failure to meet the date would then be blamed on the Angolan Government and the presence of Cubans in that country.

"The South African Government knows perfectly well that in terms of international law, the onus is on them and them alone to get out of Namibia. They should stop using an issue totally extraneous to Resolution 435 as a means of preventing independence for Namibia.

"The only legal thing they can do is get out."

Government, Further SWAPO Reaction

MB041729 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1638 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Windhoek, March 4, SAPA — The setting of August 1 for conditional implementation of United Nations Resolution 435 to bring independence to SWA/Namibia has met with subdued political response in Windhoek. At the same time, several questions have emerged about issues that have developed in SWA/Namibia since the adoption of the resolution more than seven years ago.

Political analysts and diplomatic sources said the announcement should be seen as the beginning of a new round of diplomatic bargaining to settle the prolonged SWA/Namibian dispute.

SWAPO's joint secretary for foreign affairs, Mr Niko Bessinger, said Mr Botha's announcement had not moved the SWA-/Namibian independence process "one bit closer" to implementation on UN Resolution 435.

"There is no room for optimism in this speech at all," he said.

The SWAPO spokesman said the United States and South Africa had introduced linkage between SWA/Namibain independence and a Cuban pull-out from Angola, which had delayed a settlement. Mr Bessinger added that South Africa had been instrumental in the granting of U.S. military aid to the Angolan rebel movement UNITA, "which will result in an escalation of the war." The conclusion was that the dispute would not be resolved, he said.

The SWA/Namibian transitional government has declined to comment directly on the announcement, saying the implementation of UN Resolution 435 "is a political matter."

In a statement issued tonight on behalf of the transitional government, the information minister, Mr Fanuel Kozonguizi, said by its own definition the government was "a transitional government of national unity."

"This means it remains in existence until either the work of the (SWA/Namibian) constitutional council is completed and a constitution takes effect, or UN Resolution 435 is implemented.

"Whether and when and how UN Resolution 435 is implemented is a matter for the political leaders and representatives of the political parties and organisations.

"It is not for this government at this stage to speculate on that," he said.

Earlier reports quoted diplomatic sources as saying a fixed date for implementation of the UN plan would help U.S. efforts to press Angola's MPLA government to send home an estimated 35,000 Cubans stationed in SWA/Namibia's northern neighbouring states.

Military observers in Windhoek said any pull-out of Cuban troops from Angola would have to be in tandem with a reduction of the number of South African troops in SWA/Namibia. But the main question being asked is whether such a development will be preceded by peace talks between the MPLA and UNITA, or whether Dr Savimbi will simply be left out of the settlement equation and abandoned by South Africa and the U.S., a move thought to be unlikely.

The UN settlement plans provide for a cessation of hostilities between SWA/Namibian security forces and SWAPO fighters, who are hosted by Angola, followed by a three-month gradual reduction of South African forces in the territory to a residual force of 1500 men confined to base.

The next phase is a four-month period for electioneering campaigns by the various political parties which will culminate in nation-wide voting for a constituent assembly assigned with drafting an independence constitution for SWA/Namibia.

In terms of UN Resolution 435, law and order throughout the period would be maintained by the South Afican police, but since the adoption of the resolution SWA/Namibia has acquired its own police force.

DTA, RP 'Unhappy' Over Statement

MB050651 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2130 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Windhoek, March 4, SAPA — South Africa should clearly spell out its future attitude if no agreement should be reached between itself and Angola on the repatriation of Cuban armed personnel from Angola before the August 1 target date set by the South African state president, Mr P.W. Botha, in Parliament today.

This was the opinion expressed in a joint statement issued by the president of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance [DTA], Mr Kuaima Riruako, and the leader of the Republican Party [RP], Mr Dirk Mudge, in Windhoek.

The statement said the DTA and the RP were 'unhappy' that Mr Botha had announced a statement in the South African Parliament on the future of the territory "without consulting the leader of SWA/Namibia."

The two leaders said South Africa should be prepared to indicate what its attitude would be "if no agreement could be reached on the withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angola by August 1 this year."

The parties said that if South Africa and the United States had such strong feeling on a Cuban withdrawal from Angola "they should apply efforts to attain the aim themselves without offering SWA/Namibia in exchange for that."

The country's future was at stake which was non-negotiable for strategic interests elsewhere, the statement said.

Preparatory Work on Draft Constitution Completed

MB040755 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] The chairman of the South-West African/Namibian Constitutional Council, Mr Justice Victor Hiemstra, says the council has completed preparatory work on a draft constitution. He said the implementation of a constitution for the territory did not depend on the transitional government alone but the completion would advance the independence process. The South African state president said last year that the country would regard any draft constitution produced by the Constitutional Council in South-West Africa/Namibia as a basis for future discussions.

Mr Justice Hiemstra said the territory's economy was under great pressure because of the present constitutional uncertainty.

SWAPO Claims Successes Against Security Forces

MB042027 Umtata Capital Radio in English 2000 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] SWAPO claims to have inflicted heavy losses on security forces in northern Namibia. In a statement released in the Zimbabwean capital of Harare, the organization says it killed about 120 South African troops in the first 2 months of this year. Howard Barrel reports.

[Barrel] The SWAPO communique released in the Zimbabwean capital where the Namibian nationalist movement has a small diplomatic presence gives few details to back up its claims. It states that 120 South African soldiers have been killed and many others wounded in clashes with its armed wing, the People's Liberation Army of Namibia, or PLAN, since 1 January. Twenty military trucks and vehicles, 10 telephone poles, and 9 electricity pylons were also destroyed, while large amounts of arms and ammunition were captured from South African forces, SWAPO adds.

[Announcer] But the SADF has rejected the claims, saying they are blatantly ridiculous and typical of SWAPO's ill-considered statements.

SOUTH AFRICA

Further Reaction to P.W. Botha Announcement

Pik Botha Interview

MB041923 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1800 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Interview with Foreign Minister Pik Botha by Andrey Le Roux in Cape Town on the "Network" program introduced by John Bishop — live]

[Text] Together with his announcement about the lifting of the state of emergency, the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, also announced this afternoon that the government has proposed that 1 August should be set as a firm date for the implementation of U.N. Resolution 435 on South-West Africa provided that a firm and satisfactory agreemen can be reached on the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola. Andre le Roux interviewed the South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, in Cape Town.

[Le Roux] Minister, since the adoption of Resolution 435 in 1978, there have been many attempts to revive it. Is this not just another one?

[Botha] No. The resolution has been in operation ever since in the sense that it was kept live. South African governments throughout this period stated clearly that we would implement the resolution if an agreement could be reached on Cuban withdrawal.

[Le Roux] But the implementation never really got off the ground?

[Botha] Now, that is correct the implementation didn't because...

[Le Roux, interrupting] Why?

[Botha] Because of the Cuban presence in Angola.

[Le Roux] If I can ask again: Is this an attempt to get implementation off the ground once and for all?

[Botha] Well, I never use words like never and ever and once and for all, all that, but this is a sincere attempt, certainly, to identify a fixed date, to make the whole process more concrete and tangible so that we have now an objective in terms of time to work towards, both Luanda and ourselves.

[Le Roux] Has this fixed date been sounded out? I mean who are the players: the Americans, Cubans, Savimbi... who are the players in fixing this date?

[Botha] Well, your guess is as good as mine. As far as we are concerned, the South African Government, the state president, thought it would be a good idea, a practical idea, to bring forward this whole issue in terms of time, to state a definite date — saying that the South African Government is prepared on that date to implement the Resolution 435 if we can now reach agreement on the Cuban withdrawal. Already in 1984, agreement was reached in principle that there was a connection between Cuban withdrawal and implementation of this resolution, but we have been struggling, we have been negotiating, talking ever since on the question of timetable and the numbers of Cubans to be withdrawn in any given period of time, but we have never set for ourselves a date, a goal in terms of time, which had to be met in order to implement the resolution.

[Le Roux] Sir, 435 demands that there be stages of withdrawal of South African troops. You have come up with another concept, quite new, I think, of saying you are waiting for an agreement on Cuban withdrawal, rather than all the Cubans leaving Angola before implementation of 435. Is that correct? Is there something new in this?

[Botha] No, not in that context. It has always been our point of view that as long as we have an agreement before implementation date, we will implement, but we could never reach that agreement.

[Le Roux] Let us get that clear. You do not want all the Cubans out of Angola before 435 can be implemented?

[Botha] No, no, no, they need not ... [change of thought] Not one of them needs to leave on the date of implementation. But we must have a clear indication: If South Africa starts implementing Resolution 435 on 1 August, which the state president declared we are willing to do, then we want to be satisfied that the Cubans would withdraw after that date on specific dates and in specific numbers. And we would naturally insist on mechanisms which would ensure that that takes place.

[Le Roux] You say mechanisms, but have you any indication that the Cubans could be enticed to withdraw from Angola as from 1 August?

[Botha] It depends on a lot of factors, which I would not like to discuss in detail here today. The country has been at war with itself for years now. It is becoming more impossible. The people are suffering. There is no stability. Sooner or later the war must end. Sooner or later we must achieve a solution for Namibia. Sooner or later the whole of southern Africa must achieve a greater stability, because without it there is no hope for southern Africa. Even under conditions of peace, it is going to be difficult to overcome the problems of our region. With war, there is no hope.

[Le Roux] Sir, what happens if 1 August is not met? Is that some sort of deadline?

[Botha] No, no. The president did not say and did not intend, and he certainly did not state, that this is a threat or a deadline, and he did not use words like: If you do not do it, I will do it. No, no. He did not do that at all. He made it clear that this was a sincere attempt on our part to work now towards a definite date for resolving two issues: bringing peace to Angola we hope, and implementing Resolution 435 here because the basic objective is a peaceful solution. It is no good implementing any kind of understanding or arrangement which will merely result in greater conflict. So as far as the South African Government is concerned, we really hope that there will now be progress. We have now a definite date to work towards, and Luanda has one, and we trust that there will be progress. And if there is none, then the government will have reviewed de nova its position at that stage. But we hope it will not be necessary.

[Le Roux] The last question, but you have got to answer this. Into whose court have you placed the ball?

[Botha] I would not like to put it that way. We are all of us on the field, and what we must achieve is not a situation where one is the winner and the other one is the loser. We must achieve peace. I believe Luanda and UNITA must do their best to come to some reconciliation. I believe that Resolution 435 can then be implemented and that it would be a tremendous boost for stability in the whole region.

Conservatives: False Impression

MB041750 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1737 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, Mar 4, SAPA — The state president's announcement that the state of emergency was to be lifted wrongly created the impression that the security position had improved, Mr Louis Theunissen, the Conservative Party spokesman on law and order, said today.

Reacting in a statement to Mr P.W. Botha's announcement in Parliament, Mr Theunissen warned the public against complacency.

"By lifting the state of emergency, the state president is creating the false impression (Wanindruk) that the security position in the country has improved, while the revolutionaries are in fact busy sharpening their onslaught as demonstrated by yesterday's ANC violence in Cape Town and today's bomb-planting in John Vorster Square," Mr Theunissen said.

UDF:'Totally Unacceptable'

MB041704 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1632 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March, 4 SAPA — The government's announcement that it intends to lift the state of emergency despite ongoing resistance and loss of life was an "acknowledgement that the emergency has failed to suppress the desire of our people to be free," The National Executive Committee of the United Democratic Front [UDF] said today.

In a statement from Johannesburg, the UDF said the resistance had now spread beyond the emergency areas.

"We are particularly concerned that by amending existing legislation to deal with incidents of unrest the government is going to broaden the already draconian provision of the Internal Security Act. The effect of this is that a de facto state of emergency will exist throughout our country," it said.

"Mr Botha's appeal for negotiations while apartheid exists is hollow not only to the majority of South Africa's people, but the entire international community has made it clear that apartheid is not negotiable."

The UDF reiterated its call for:

— "The unconditional release of Nelson Mandela and all political prisoners;

— "The unbanning of the African National Congress and return of exiles; and

— "The immediate dismantling of apartheid so that a positive climate can be created for negotiations."

The UDF added Mr Botha must realise South Africa's occupation of SWA/Namibia was illegal and by trying to link SWA/Namibia's independence to the withdrawal of Cubans from Angola was "totally unacceptable."

The UDF called for the "immediate end to South Africa's illegal occupation of Namibia and the implementation of (United Nations) Resolution 435."

AZASM: 'Redundant, No Difference'

MB041602 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1601 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 4, SAPA — The Azanian Students Movement (AZASM) said in Johannesburg today the announcement by the state president that the state of emergency was soon to be lifted was "redundant and uncalled for in the first place."

A spokesman for AZASM, Mr Thuti Matlala, said South Africa was "always in a state of emergency because the same laws of detention, bannings of meetings and maiming and killing of black people are still applicable."

"Thus to black students in this country there is literally no difference between the state of emergency and no state of emergency."

Mr Mtlala said since the state of emergency was declared last July there had been an escalation of confrontation between the police and black people.

LP, NRP Welcome Announcement

MB041842 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The state president, Mr P.W. Botha, says the partial state of emergency announced last year will be lifted soon, probably on Friday. The state president also proposed 1 August this year as the date for the commencement of the UN independence plan for South-West Africa, provided that a firm and satisfactory agreement could be reached before that date for the withdrawal of the Cubans from neighboring Angola.

The Labor Party [LP] in the House of Representatives has welcomed both announcements by the state president. Leader of the party and chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Representatives, Rev Allan Hendrickse, said the state of emergency had been necessary, at a time when action was needed to protect citizens. He expressed the hope that the community at large would cooperate to establish peace and security, bearing in mind that apartheid in all its facets had to be dismantled and destroyed.

In welcoming the state president's announcement on South-West Africa, Mr Hendrickse said the acceptance of a date for the implementation of Resolution 435 was now the responsibility of those who had thus far been more than critical. The announcement by Mr Botha should be seen as a sign of the seriousness of South Africa and its willingness to act in the interests of all the inhabitants of South-West Africa.

In its reaction, the New Republic Party said the lifting of the state of emergency opened doors to moderates to enter into dialogue and negotiation. NRP spokesman on law and order, Mr Vause Raw, said those who still chose violence before negotiation and the peaceful settlement of legitimate grievances would have to learn the hard way.

The party spokesman on foreign affairs, Mr Brian Page, said in reaction to the South-West Africa statement that the goal was for this independence to be acceptable to all its people as well as the international community.

AZAPO: 'Naive Attempt'

MB050601 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1904 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 4, SAPA — The Azania People's Organisation (AZAPO) said from Johannesburg today that it has taken the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, a long time to realise "the painful futility" of the declaration of the state of emergency.

AZAPO's publicity secretary, Mr Muntu Myeze, gave a statement to SAPA commenting on the proposed lifting of the state of emergency by Mr Botha in Parliament today.

He said: "The circumstances of disquiet in the country have not abated because of the sweeping powers granted to the South African Police and Defence Force.

"The state of emergency and all other represssive measures are not remedies to the volatile situation in our country."

Mr Myeze said the replacement of the state of emergency by legislation was a "naive attempt" to avoid having to declare another state of emergency.

"The government must realise that what will stop the pressure and unrest will be a total and fundamental change to the present system."

Boesak: 'Happy' To See Response

MB050553 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2010 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 4, SAPA — The United Democratic Front (UDF) patron, Dr Allan Boesak, said that while he was "happy to see the government is at last prepared to respond to at least one of our demands", he would like Mr P.W. Botha's announcement on the lifting of the state of emergency to be fully spelt out.

"I hope it means that troops will be withdrawn from the townships, that the indemnity police have for their actions will be ended, and that meetings of the community to discuss issues of concern will no longer be banned."

DPSC: 'Fills Us With Apprehension'

MB050641 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2108 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 4, SAPA — A spokesman for the Detainees Parents Support Committee said the group was filled with apprehension at the imminent lifting of the state of emergency announced by the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, today.

The spokesman said: "Mr Botha's suggestion that he needs to increase the already too-sweeping powers of the state fills us with apprehension.

"The only way to curb the unrest is to stop making speeches about violence and rather to release all detainees and political prisoners, get the army out of the townships and begin negotiating with leaders democratically elected by the people."

NPP: Announcement 'Welcome'

MB050619 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0555 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 4, SAPA — The state president's announcement that the state of emergency would be lifted was most welcome, Mr Somaroo Pachai, national chairman of the National People's Party, said today. He said he was certain the lifting of the state of emergency would help to calm nerves.

"Once this is done, we can get on with the job of reform," he said.

On the state president's announcement on South-West Africa, Mr Pachai said the territory was a millstone around South Africa's neck and the sooner it was granted independence the better it would be for the republic.

Black Sash: 'Long Way To Go'

MB050644 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2109 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 4, SAPA — Mrs Mary Burton, the chairman of the Western Cape Region of the Black Sash, said they wondered what had led to Mr P.W. Botha's decision to lift the state of emergency, when the unrest situation seemed as serious as ever.

Mrs Sheena Duncan, the national president of the Black Sash, said there was a long way to go before South Africa returned to the rule of law. There had been ongoing detentions, harassment and breaking-up of meetings in areas not under emergency rule.

Reportage on Mass Funeral in Alexandra

Mrs Mandela, Boesak, Naude Attend

MB051229 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1205 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Mar 5, SAPA — Alexandra was tense but peaceful today as about 60,000 mourners, including diplomatic representatives from several countries, converged on the Alexandra stadium to attend the mass funeral of 17 people killed in police action nearly two weeks ago.

Although the township was almost completely sealed off by security forces who manned roadblocks at all entry points, most of the mourners were allowed to enter Alexandra. There were several hundred white people in the crowd — mostly people who align themselves with the United Democratic Front or its affiliates.

No incidents of violence or confrontation between police and residents were reported by noon. The security forces sent occasional patrols into the township.

Thousands of mourners thronged the stadium long before the starting time of 9am.

The guests, who were escorted by about 40 funeral marshals, included the president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, Dr Allan Boesak; the president of the United Democratic Front, Mrs Albertina Sisulu; and the secretary- general of the South African Council of Churches, Dr Beyers Naude.

There was drama when Mrs Winnie Mandela, wife of jailed ANC Leader Nelson Mandela, arrived soon after the proceedings had begun. She was accompanied by a large group of marshals singing freedom songs and carrying a board cut out in the shape of Africa and bearing the black, green and gold colours of the ANC. The entire stadium roared and there was ululating as she was ushered to the guests' platform.

In front of the guests, the 17 coffins were lined up, each drapped with a flag bearing the ANC colours.

Many flags, banners and posters praising black political organisations and leaders were displayed in spite of a police order prohibiting this.

Youths Shot on Funeral's Eve

MB051044 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1041 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] Johannebsurg, Mar 5, SAPA — At least one youth is feared dead and two others seriously wounded after police allegedly opened fire on a car that sped past a roadblock in Alexandra last night.

The shooting was on the eve of today's mass funeral for 17 unrest victims. Residents said the youths apparently failed to stop at the roadblock and police fired at their speeding car.

It is believed the two wounded are in a serious condition in hospital. A police spokesman in Pretoria said today "nothing had been reported" on the alleged shooting of the youths.

This morning thousands of workers stayed away from work in preparation for the mass funeral. Last night more than 25,000 people attended a memorial service at the Alexandra stadium, scene of today's service. Several thousand others attended night vigils at various churches throughout the township.

This morning security forces sealed off the township, manning roadblocks at all entry points. A military helicopter hovered overhead and ground forces patrolled the township.

Community leaders and marshals last night intervened to save a suspected police informant from the crowd that had gathered at the Alexandra stadium.

The anxiety of former councillor Mr T. Molepo ended today when his son's name was included in the list of people being buried today. Mr Molepo resigned as councillor after his son was shot by police and died after being in a coma for two weeks.

Police Keep 'Low Profile'

MB050944 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0938 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 4, SAPA — Police maintaining a 'low profile' today as crowds moved towards an Alexandra stadium where 10,000 mourners had already gathered for the mass funeral of 17 unrest victims, police said.

A spokesman for the police directorate of public relations said police were patrolling the area in vehicles but were "trying not to go where the people are gathering." They were assisted by the South African Defence Force, he said.

All was "quiet" as people moved towards the stadium and no incidents had occurred, he said. It was not known who would officiate at the service.

Police Ban TV Equipment

MB041731 Johannesburg Television Service in Afrikaans 1700 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] A statement just issued by the divisional commissioner of police for the Witwatersrand, Brigadier Johannes Bekker, says no television recording equipment, casette recorders, or similar equipment will be allowed in Alexandra near Johannesburg tomorrow.

Only journalists with press accreditation from the bureau of information or the South African Police will be allowed into the area. The statement says these measures are being instituted to ensure that the mass funerals to be held in the Alexandra residential area will proceed peacefully.

Court Rejects Appeal of Ban

MB050530 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2152 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 4, SAPA — An application by foreign correspondents to overturn a police ban on the use of audio-visual equipment at tomorrow's Alexandra funeral of unrest victims was tonight rejected by the Rand Supreme Court. The urgent application was brought by all the foreign-based television networks, according to Mr Bill Mutschmann of CBS.

Mr Mutschmann said the judge found in favour of the police but granted costs to the networks.

"As we understand it, print journalists will be allowed into Alexandra and audio-visual media, including television, are excluded," said Mr Mutschmann.

The application was filed by ABC, ITN, NBC, CBS, BBC and Visnews.

House of Assembly Dining Room Opened To All MP's

MB040946 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0943 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Parliament, March 4, SAPA — The dining room reserved exclusively for members of the House of Assembly, to which members of the Houses of Representatives and Delegates objected earlier this session, has been opened to all members.

This was announced here today by the speaker, Mr Johan Greeff, who said the decision had been taken by the House of Assembly's committee on standing rules and orders.

The issue of limited access to the small dining room was contested by coloured MPs who staged two sit-ins during the first week of the parliamentary session this year after which Mr Speaker requested that the matter be referred to the appropriate committee for decision.

He said this morning that the committee's decision would be announced in the House later today and its ruling was subject to due regard being given to "existing practice." Mr Greeff pointed out that the existing practice was that party members sat together, as the dinette, also referred to as the "coffee room", was a place where caucus discussions were continued among party colleagues.

The new ruling maintained the old ruling that no guests of any sort, including family or relations, could be invited to join members in the dining room.

"The committee on standing rules and orders of the House of Representatives and the House of Delegates will decide officially on the utilisation of facilities and rooms under their control with due regard to the catering needs of the President's Council," Mr Speaker said. (The President's Council used the catering facilities of these two houses.)

Another decision that had been taken was that buildings which had formerly not been part of the precincts of Parliament would now be included and fall under the control of Mr Speaker.

Labor Party Welcomes Decision

MB041057 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1056 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Cape Town, Mar 4, SAPA — The opening of the House of Assembly's coffee room to coloured and Indian MP's was welcome and showed a willingness at the highest level to move away from apartheid, Mr Peter Hendrickse, press officer for the Labour Party said today.

"We believe that the getting together of people is essential for a clearer and better understanding of each other's perceptions," he said.

P.W. Botha Meets ASSOCOM, Chamber of Mines Heads

MB041151 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Our political news staff reports that representatives of the two larger employer organizations in the country, ASSOCOM [Association of Chambers of Commerce] and the Chamber of Mines this mroning had separate talks with the state president in Cape Town. The ASSOCOM delegates were lead by its president, Mr Rocky Ridgway, while the president of the Chamber of Mines, Mr E.G. (Nobbs), led his organization's delegation.

Conservative, AWB Leaders Meet, Issue Statement

MB041203 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] The leader of the Conservative Party [CP] Dr Andries Treurnicht, issued a statement in Cape Town this morning after his talks with the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging [AWB, Afrikaner Resistance Movement] leadership. Douglas McClure of our parliamentary staff reports from Cape Town.

[McClure] The leader of the CP, Dr Andries Treurnicht, said that he is satisfied that the Brandwag organization which was allegedly set up by the AWB to safeguard the interests of the whites in South Africa is not militant and will function entirely within the law. In the statement released in Cape Town this morning after Dr Treurnicht's discussion with Mr Eugence Terre'Blanche and Mr Jan Groenewald of the AWB yesterday, he said that as far as the Brandwag organization was concerned, his party did not object to people protecting their lives and property within the law. Dr Treurnicht said that Mr Terre'Blanche and Mr Groenewald had assured him that the AWB was not a militant organization and would not act outside the law. They had also given him the assurance that they were not planning to enter party politics.

Further on Mabuza Comments on Talks With ANC

MB041515 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1509 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 4, SAPA — The leaders of the ANC were not gun-toting revolutionaries, but South Africans committed to change with the minimum of bloodshed, the chief minister of KaNgwane, Mr Enos Mabuza, said today.

Mr Mabuza, in his capacity as president of the cultural organisation, Inyandza national movement, took a 21-man delegation to Lusaka for talks with 21 African National Congress leaders led by Mr Oliver Tambo last weekend.

Speaking at Jan Smuts Airport, Mr Mabuza said the ANC top echelon did not appear to be "gun-toting, bloodthirsty, Marxist revolutionaries." "They gave us the impression they were committed South Africans; committed to change with the minimum of bloodshed and violence," he said.

In a joint communique, the two delegations agreed each organisation would act, in accordance with independently arrived-at decisions, in persuit of the common objective of "the birth of a genuinely democratic South Africa."

Inyandza requested the discussions, reflecting its conviction that the question of political power could not be resolved without the ANC.

"The ANC welcomed the decision of Inyandza and saw it as a very important step towards the further consolidation of the unity of our people and of the democratic movement of our country of which Inyandza is an integral part," the communique said.

The two parties agreed the solution to the problems facing South Africa lay in the institution of majority rule in a united, democratic and non-racial South Africa. They were united in their opposition to separate development.

The Inyandza delegation explained its principal task was to organise people to support a democratic South Africa. It was important that organisations working within institutions created by the Pretoria governemnt should cooperate and not compete.

Of central importance was an intensified campaign for the immediate and unconditional release of Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners, the organisations agreed.

They concluded no negotiations were possible while "the leaders of the people are in prison" and while Pretoria refused to accept the country "should be governed by all its people, both black and white, as equals, brothers and sisters."

The Inyandza and ANC representatives were confident the victory "of the people" over white minority rule was not far off, the communique said.

Mr Mabuza felt the Lusaka visit had changed his group's attitude to the pace of change.

"It motivates us to work much more firmly for unity in the country ... amongst other movements to work for a democratic society in South Africa," Mr Mabuza said.

Mr Mabuza's delegation believed the government should talk to the ANC.

He quoted the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, as saying apartheid was outmoded. People within structures created by apartheid should realise these structures, including KaNgwane, were outmoded, the homelands leader said.

If the time came when he had to resign his homeland authority, he would be prepared to do so, Mr Mabuza said.

About 150 Inyandza members, some sporting the organisation's dark brown outfits with orange, green and black shoulder flashes, were at the airport to welcome the delegation. The teenagers among the group sang, chanted and stamped as about 10 railway policemen looked on.

While in Zambia, the South Africans were guests at a reception hosted by the Tanzanian High commission. This morning, they met the Zambian president, Dr Kenneth Kaunda. Mr Mabuza and his collegues were impressed by the "great son of Africa's" knowledge of and concern about South Africa.

Police Say Limpet Mine Caused Police Station Blast

MB050738 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0724 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, Mar 5, SAPA — A limpet mine caused the explosion which struck a toilet on the second floor of John Vorster Square police headquarters in Johannesburg yesterday, a spokesman for the Police Directorate of Public Relations said today.

Two policemen, Capt P.S. van Heerden and Warrant Officer H.S.C.A. Vermeulen were slightly injured in the blast. The spokesman said damage to the toilet was "fairly extensive."

Police Fire Teargas at Durban Factory Protest

MB051046 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1043 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] Durban, Mar 5, SAPA — Police fired teargas to disperse about 500 workers from Dunlop who were demonstrating outside the factory in Durban's Sydney Road today.

A police spokesman said one person was arrested during the demonstration.

The workers were protesting against the detention of a prominent trade unionist, Mr Moses Mayekiso, Transvaal branch secretary of the Metal and Allied Workers Union [MAWU]. Mr Mayekiso was arrested on February 21 in Alexandra township, just outside Sandton.

Mr Samuel Mthethwa, a shop steward for MAWU said the workers were just walking outside the factory when the police came and fired teargas at them. He said the union was still discussing the matter with the employers. According to Mr Mthethwa, the police arrested two people.

'Industrial Accident' Kills 1 at ARMSCOR Branch

MB051105 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1057 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text]Cape Town, March 5, SAPA — One person was killed and three others injured, one seriously, in an explosion at an ARMSCOR [Armaments Development and Production Corporation] subsidiary company at Somerset West today.

The names of the dead and injured have not been released as their relatives had not been informed.

The explosion is being investigated, according to an ARMSCOR spokesman. He said in reply to queries about the blast at Somchem that the explosion had been an "industrial accident" which occurred at 9.20am during "normal manufacturing activities".

"The matter has already been reported to the inspector of explosives and a full investigation has been launched into the incident in conjunction with him."

Police Issue Latest Unrest Situation Reports

Late 4 Mar

MB041707 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1656 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 4, SAPA — The SAP Directorate of Public Relations 7pm unrest situation report:

In Atteridgeville a number of policemen's homes were petrol-bombed. Minor damage resulted.

In Duncan Village, in the border area, a truck and private home were damaged when they were petrol-bombed. A white woman was slightly injured and a white man was seriously injured when a vehicle was stoned. Five men were arrested in connection with this incident.

At Petterville, also in the border area, a private home was damaged by arsonists.

In Mamelodi a delivery vehicle was destroyed when it was set on fire. Three men were arrested when they stoned a school.

In Tembisa on the east Rand two trucks were set on fire and extensively damaged. A youth was arrested in connection with this incident.

At Kanana, a black residential area near Orkney in the western Transvaal, the development board offices and a SAP vehicle were stoned. Police dispersed this mob with shotgun fire, fatally wounding a man.

At Ikageng, near Potchesfstroom, a youth who was injured during a confrontation with police yesterday has died in hospital.

At Botshabelo, near Bloemfontein, a school and private vehicles were stoned. The driver of a vehicle dispersed his attackers by pistol fire. No injures were reported. A bus was slightly damaged when it was set alight. A shop was looted by a mob.

At Umlazi, near Durban, the SAP used shotgun fire and tearsmoke when a school was set alight and vehicles of the SAP as well as private vehicles were stoned.

At Claremont a private vehicle was extensively damaged by arsonists. Tearsmoke was used to disperse the mob.

At Alexandra in the Witwatersrand several private vehicles were stoned. During one of these incidents a driver was slightly injured.

Early 5 Mar

MB050655 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0631 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, Mar 5, SAPA — The following incidents of unrest were reported overnight by the Police Directorate of Publications in Pretoria.

At Mohlakeng on the west Rand, a private motor car was destroyed when it was set on fire.

At Kanana, near Orkney, a police vehicle was petrol-bombed. A youth was arrested in connection with this incident. In the same area, a shop was extensively damaged by arsonists. Development board vehicles were petrol-bombed on a number of occasions. Police used shotguns to disperse these mobs, fatally wounding 1 man, and wounding 4 others. Ten men were arrested.

In Soweto a delivery vehicle was damaged by stonethrowers. In the same area, three private homes and a motor car were extensively damaged by arsonists.

At Claremont, near Durban, a private home was extensively damaged when it was petrol-bombed.

In Atteridgeville near Pretoria, a bus was damaged by stonethrowers. In the same area, a hand grenade was hurled at a private home, causing extensive damage. A woman in the house was killed and two men injred.

At Duncan Village near East London, a private vehicle was stoned and extensively damaged. A white man was injured by the stone-throwers in the same area, two private homes were damaged by petrol-bombs. A night watchman was stabbed to death and the shop he was guardig was set alight and extensively damagd.

At Guguletu, two private homes were petrol-bombed and extensively damaged.

At Ikageng, near Porchestroom, a beer hall was set on fire and slightly damaged. A man was arrested in connection with this incident.

In the black residential area near Preiska in the northern Cape, a man was arrested when he stoned an SAP vehicle.

Police Arrest 30 for Public Violence in Carnarvon

MB041301 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1253 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 4, SAPA — Police arrested 30 people — including a teacher and pupils — at Carnarvon on allegations of public violence, attempted murder and assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm.

The 30, including 12 juveniles, are expected to appear in the Carnarvon magistrates court today.

Secondary School Exams in Mamelodi Suspended

MB040921 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0852 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, Mar 4, SAPA — Promotion examinations at secondary schools in Mamelodi have been suspended following a difference of opinion on whether to write or not.

The confusion came a few days after it was announced that exams would start early this week. Some students held a meeting last week where a decision was taken that they would not sit for the exams. The stand was reiterated at a meeting of the students, the parents and the teachers and a priest at the weekend.

Earlier this year, the student body decided it would write the exams in March after the majority of the students had not sat for them in November last year. It emerged in the meeting at the weekend that the majority of students in the township want to write the exam, but a vociferous minority were dissuading them.

The Mamelodi Parents Crisis Committee, elected at the weekend to look into the problems at school, and some school representatives decided in a meeting yesterday that exams be suspended until the executive committee of the Students Representatives Council come out with a clear decision as to whether the students were prepared to sit for the exams.

Soweto students started to write exams yesterday.

Most of the students at all secondary and high schools in the township were back in class earlier today after a one-day boycott of lessons.

The boycott took place after the students' decision in a meeting at the weekend to stay away from school for reasons they refused to disclose.

The boycott call was confused in the township as an impending countrywide action that certain political organisations threatened to call if the demands the Soweto Parents Crisis Committee to the government were not met.

Significance of Guguletu Shootout Discussed

MB040933 London BBC World Service in English 0709 GMT 4 Mar 86

[From the "24 Hours" program]

[Text] In South Africa, the police have said they have intercepted and killed seven heavily armed guerrillas of the ANC on the outskirts of a black township near Cape Town. The police allege that the guerrillas were preparing to attack a security forces patrol.

In the past, the ability of the ANC to mount such an attack has been limited. So, to find if things were changing, Hugh Pricer-Jones called South Africa and spoke to Dr Tom Lodge of the University of Witwatersarand.

[Begin recording] [Lodge] I think if the police version is completely accurate, then it is quite a significant development. Here we had seven men acting together, in local terms quite well off —they had AK machine guns, they had handgrenades, they had machine pistols, and these people were clearly people who were trained, who were motivated, who were organized in a coordinated operation intending to actually confront the police, armed policemen face to face, and ambush them. This is something that the ANC has not been able to undertake since the Nkomati Accord and it does demonstrate — if the police version is to be believed — that the ANC is succeeding in getting trained men and weapons into the country despite the restrictions that are becoming increasingly tight on South Africa's frontiers. But what is interesting about this group is that this was a relatively large group. Most of the ANC attacks in the last year or so have been fairly small-scale affairs involving a small number of individuals, often individuals who have been recruited and given a very rudimentary type of training locally and then been armed with handgrenades or limpet mines, weapons that do not require a great deal of expertise or knowledge of how to handle them. This group looks different.

[Pricer-Jones] If weapons were to get into the townships on a reasonably large scale, do you think it would change things significantly?

[Lodge] Oh, I think so, because there is a considerable army of young volunteers willing to use those weapons and with a motivation and the commitment to use them, and the townships, particularly in the eastern Cape, have already been characterized by a great deal of street fighting between the police and the so-called comrades or umbuto [regiment of warriors] as they are called, the young teenage gangs which are organized in a quasi-military fashion and which take [illegible] their inspiration the ANC guerrillas and they have been obtaining weapons, hand grenades, they have even been disarming sometimes SADF units.

[Pricer-Jones] You said they have been disarming armed forces units. Does this mean that the armed forces are perhaps being more cautious now, keeping out of townships and so removing patrols that might be in danger of being ambushed?

[Lodge] There were cases last year in which youths appeared in court for stealing weapons. There are stories about troop carriers being ambushed by youths who throw Molotov cocktails or handgrenades into the vehicles when the police or the soldiers get out of the vehicles and run away. Then they take the weapons.

[Pricer-Jones] Now presumably the publicity given has been with the intention of reminding the white community in South Africa of the imminent danger ANC presents to them. Will it have that effect?

[Lodge] Yes, I think we are always been reminded of that by the government, by police spokesmen, but at the same time it is quite remarkable how censorship has interfered with white perception. Yes, ANC incidents get a certain amount of press coverage, but the average reader of a white-oriented newspaper would know from the newspaper columns very little of what is going on in the townships. But, the government's censorship policies have actually interfered very considerably with white perceptions of the real situation which this country is in at the moment. [end recording]

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

[Editorial Report]

'Comrades' Pressure Policeman

Johannesburg *SUNDAY TIMES* in English on 2 March carries a report on page 3 of its "Extra" section which says an Atteridgeville constable has resigned his job following "pressure from the Comrades and parents." "He said that members of the group who call themselves the Comrades went to his house twice to tell him to quit — 'otherwise something would be done about my life'." The man said even though he has quit he is under suspicion from township residents who say he has "decided to be an informer." " 'I don't know how to prove to them that I've resigned,' " he said.

TIMES on Parliament Pay Increase

An editorial on page 22 of the main paper agrees that the members of Parliament, by private sector standards, may be underpaid. "Poor pay attracts second-rate talent — and most certainly, in these critical times South Africa needs the very best in politics." However, if pay raises are approved, they should be attached to "the same standards of performance as those applied in the private sector." "Indolence, incompetence or absenteeism should mean the sack."

Police Urged To Suppress White Violence

A second editorial says the random shootings of blacks "serve as a stark warning to both black and white South Africans." "The match and the tinder are plentiful in South Africa; the agony of the townships has more than once spilt into the surrounding areas, drawing an increasingly angry response from jittery whites." The violence increasingly involves civilian against civilian, it notes. "The responsibility of both authority and the public is clear. The police must show a ruthless evenhandedness in suppressing violence from the right as much as from the left, from whites as much as from blacks."

Time Not Ripe for Negotiation

In the "Another View" column on page 23, Ken Owen says one of the principal changes "wrought by Mr Botha's limited reforms has been to raise the political awareness and the anger of black people". The revolutionary left and the reactionary right have both moved to exploit the black rage. "In the face of these reactions, fair-minded critics of the Government must surely admit, as some foreign intelligence agencies do, that President Botha's government has been surprisingly consistent in pursuing its own idea of reform." The battleground is set: "On one side, the African National Congress and its allies committed to violence; on the other the Nationalist-led whites ready to use violence when they feel sufficiently threatened. Between the two is a gulf which cannot yet be bridged." While the liberal opposition speaks of negotiation, "the conditions for negotiation do not yet exist and to attempt the bridging is to risk becoming a Muzorewa figure, black or white."

PFP Comments on Advertisement

Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English on 3 March reports on page 3 that the Progressive Federal Party [PFP] advertisement which appeared in the Johannesburg *SUNDAY TIMES* newspaper "was intended primarily to respond to President Botha's recent newspaper advertising campaign, but it also served to promote the party's new leadership team". Peter Soal, PFP director of special projects, said the ad would appear only once and "was not appearing in other newspapers because the PFP, unlike the Government, was not using unlimited taxpayers' money." Soal criticised South African Broadcasting Corporation's reportage on the advertisement, saying it ignored the PFP criticism of the government and only emphasized the sections which referred to the party's role in Parliament.

Boesak Saves Man at Funeral

"Dr Allan Boesak, president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, saved a man said to be a police informer from death at the weekend during the mass funeral of five unrest victims in a town ship near George," *THE STAR* reports on page 4. Mourners at the ceremony, which drew 5,000 people, attacked and tried to set alight a man after a black clergyman pointed at him and shouted: " 'There is a police spy among us.' " Boesak drove the man away from the ceremony in his car. "There were no other incidents at the funeral but during the mass march to the church, many people were carrying wooden replicas of AK-47 rifles and other weapons and wore pseudo-military khaki with shoulder flashes in ANC colours. Police kept a low profile behind razor-wire barricades."

Bophuthatswana Blames RSA 'Dissidents' For Unrest

The President's Office of the Government of Bophuthatswana has released a statement blaming disturbances in the homeland on "dissident elements operating from places in South Africa," says a report on page 4. The statement admitted there were problems in the Odi and Moretele districts, but said the government was "steadfast in its determination to use every lawful means at its disposal to put an end to the acts of thuggery and destruction that it has experienced."

STAR Warns of Education Crisis

An editorial on page 10 warns that black education is entering another period of crisis. "There are clear indications that things are not going well. In the wake of more detentions and shootings (with resultant funerals) stayaways have started and boycotts loom." If the government seeks normality and a climate for political negotiation across the country, it "must start by promoting it vigorously in the black schools."

NCM Leader Explains ANC Talks

A report on page 11 says Jules Browde, chairman of the National Convention Movement (NCM) committee, has said the reason he met ANC leader Oliver Tambo in Lusaka recently was to attempt "to bring across-the-board representation of South Africa's black leaders to the negotiating table. "At a function in Johannesburg Sunday night, he also said he had offered Dr Alex Boraine the position of executive dirctor of the NCM. Browde said "all the organisations, including the ANC, were amenable to negotiation if the climate was right. 'One of the aims of the NCM is to prevail upon the Government to repeal all discriminatory legislation and to allow free political association and activity. You cannot have a national convention from which representatives of any group or political conviction are excluded and no organisation can be expected to participate in negotiations if its leaders are imprisoned or banned.' "

NUSAS Outlines Goals for Year

Brendan Barry, president of the National Union of South African Students (NUSAS) has said the group plans to "educate students and make them understand that they need to channel their understanding of the situation" in South Africa into action, Susan Pleming reports on page 12. NUSAS will highlight the End Conscription Campaign and the call for troops to get out of the townships, and its affiliation to the United Democratic Front (UDF), and the Azanian Students' Organization "would remain strong this year," he said. NUSAS presence on Afrikaans campuses "would be fairly low-key" due to opposition by conservative students and university administrations. "On the relationship with the Afrikaanse Studentebond, Mr Barry said contact to date had been unproductive. 'The political gap is too wide to bridge at this stage.' "

Foreign Bankers Cautious

A number of Johannesburg-based foreign bankers do not share the "subdued optimism in official circles over the foreign debt situation," John Tilston reports on page 12 of the Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 3 March. One banker said he thought the optimism was "premature" and another said "there are still a number of issues to be resolved. Certain overnight deposits in London, and the American bankers' concern that bankers' acceptances are included in the standstill, are among the most pressing." European bankers believe their U.S. counterparts accepted the Leutwiler proposals with "some reluctance and will now seek to improve their position." Most foreign banks have not yet decided whether to "re-lend the 5 percent of blocked foreign debt due for repayment this year," and one said "any such decisions would be taken on the basis of the needs of corporate clients, suggesting that wider loyalties and customer links in other parts of the world will be paramount considerations." "Another banker suggested that foreign bankers will want to see SA repay the $2bn (4bn) foreign debt due for repayment this year before making any firm commitments to the country."

'Comrades' Run Township Affairs

An unattributed report on page 4 of the Johannesburg *SOWETAN* in English on 3 March says, "Not a single policeman remains in Langa and KwaNobuhle, cauldrons of the Eastern Cape." All have fled thier homes in fear. "Councillors similarly have been hounded from their homes." "Without these officials to regulate day-to-day township affairs, and without resident policemen to maintain order," the "Maqabane," Xhosa for "comrades", have taken over. In many areas "people's courts" and "street committees" mete out justice. "Because many activists are detained and subjected to alleged harassment once they become known to the police, community organisations have decided that street committees should run — more or less — the affairs of the townships. If a committee member is detained, another is selected to fill the vacuum. Anonymity is observed strictly."

ZAMBIA

COSATU Talks With ANC Leaders Begin in Lusaka

MB050950 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0900 GMT 5 Mar 86

[Text] Leaders of the 500,000 strong Congress of South African Trade Unions [COSATU] have started talks in Lusaka this morning with a joint delegation of the ANC. Also included in the talks is the underground, exiled South African Congress of Trade Unions [SACTU]. The ANC delegation is led by the organization's President Oliver Tambo. Howard Barrell has the details:

[Barrell] The COSATU delegation, which includes General Secretary J. Naidoo and Mineworkers' Union General Secretary Cyril Ramaphosa, had breakfast at Zambia's State House this morning with President Kenneth Kaunda. They then moved into talks with the joint ANC-SACTU delegation which includes Tambo, SACTU's General Secretary John Nkadimeng, ANC Information Chief Thabo Mbeki, and new ANC executive member James Stuart. Observers in the Frontline States see the COSATU meeting with the joint ANC-SACTU delegation as the most important to date in the string of meetings with the ANC, which started in September last year when a business delegation led by Anglo-American Chairman Gavin Relly met Tambo and other ANC leaders.

ZIMBABWE

Cape Verdian President Arrives 3 Mar for Talks

AB041112 Paris AFP in English 0809 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] Harare, March 4 (AFP) — Cape Verdian President Aristides Pereira arrived here Monday on the third leg of a five-nation African tour for talks with Zimbabwean Prime Minister Robert Mugabe.

He flew in from Lusaka, where he had conferred with Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda and representatives of the Africa National Congress, the outlawed main liberation movement fighting to overthrow the white minority government in South Africa.

Mr Pereira also visited Angola, where he held talks with the South-West Africa People's Organization, whose guerrillas are fighting South Africa's occupation of Namibia. He is due to go on to Botswana and Mozambique after his five-day visit to Zimbabwe.

Praises State's Aid to Mozambique

MB040710 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 4 Mar 86

[Text] The president of the Cape Verde Islands, Comrade Aristides Maria Pereira last night praised the Zimbabwean Government for its military support to Mozambique against the South African-sponsored Mozambique National Resistance bandits. Speaking at a dinner hosted in his honor by the president, Comrade Canaan Banana, Comrade Pereira said Zimbabwe's active support in defense of Mozambique's sovereignty engaging all in the Frontline States is a prediction of a future free and united Africa.

Comrade Banana said South Africa's continued violence against blacks has failed to stop the spiraling struggle to wipe out the apartheid system. He said internal guerrilla action coupled with international pressure against the apartheid regime has put that country against the wall.

President Perira said the Frontline States bear the brunt of South Africa's destabilization and aggression. Therefore, he called on the OAU and the international community to assist the Frontline States and the liberation movements in southern Africa to eradicate the evil system of apartheid. Comrade Pereira also called for a renewed and just economic order.